



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

The Tragedy Hits Noe Valley

By Jeff Kaliss

It was the afternoon of Sept. 11, some nine hours after the repercussions of terrorist activity on the East Coast had begun impacting our consciousness here in the West. Carlos Cavillo, a San Francisco native and an electrical contractor by trade, gazed out from his seat at Noe's Bar at the eerie quiet along 24th Street.

"Sunny Noe Valley, everyone's always laidback," he observed. "But all of a sudden, they're not laidback anymore. They're becoming aware that we can't just have our donuts and coffee."

"First thing this morning, the phone was ringing, people were scared and upset," added Noe's bartender Nancy Emory. "They just wanted to make sure I was here." She reported that concerned customers, some of them excused from their regular nine-to-five shifts, had been congregating in the bar all day, to "work it through, get it in perspective."

April Erickson, one of those customers, had witnessed the scenes of the explosions and collapse of the twin towers at New York's World Trade Center on her computer screen at the software company where she works in the South of Market area. "Some of our clients were in those buildings, and we thought some of our consultants might be there, but they actually don't have their gigs until tomorrow.... Now I don't know what will happen, because you never know what's going on with the government and what they'll let you know."

"For better or worse, [George W. Bush] represents us in a very dire time, so I think there'll be a kind of closing of ranks," offered Leo Litwak, sharing lattés and "a day full of news" with Carolyn Evans at Martha's, down the street from Noe's.

Who's Up for Some Halloween Fun?

By Heidi Anderson

It's October, and if you're a kid, that means Halloween, so the people of Noe Valley are once again buying those tiny candy bars by the ton and hauling pumpkins to the porch in honor of this big day.

Here's a guide for the kid (and kid-at-heart) for celebrating Halloween in our neighborhood.

Getting in the Mood

A good way to greet the Halloween season is to gallop over to Noe Valley's annual hayride on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The horse-drawn wagon ride is sponsored by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, and is free. Hop on in front of the Walgreen's at Castro and Jersey, and take a slow-paced trot down 24th to Sanchez and then back to Walgreen's via Jersey Street.

Along with the hayride, the association is sponsoring its annual sidewalk sale. Several 24th Street stores will line the sidewalks with things to buy at prices that



In the days following the devastating attacks on New York and Washington, Noe Valley residents came together to grieve and to pray for peace.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

An early-morning call from his daughter in L.A. had awakened Litwak to the tragedy, and televised images left him in "utter shock and a kind of despair." He'd promptly phoned his relatives and friends in New York and confirmed they were okay.

"But you felt somehow the conditions of American life had been transformed in just a day," said Litwak. "Our economic priorities will change, and the rest of the world follows in our wake and they're going to endure what we do." Coming to Martha's, not far from the residence they share, provided Litwak and Evans with "an anchorage, a way to do our regular routines."

Across 24th Street at the Ark, clerk Jennie Wooley had tuned the toy store's radio to the news for a time, but then changed to a classical music station. "There are lots of little kids in here, and I thought it would be a better environment," she explained. "I don't think it's reached them, and I wouldn't want to go

into detail about terrorism with a kid."

Ahmad Kamal, at 15½ years of age, is old enough to have come home by himself after the San Francisco Unified School District suspended classes early that morning, and then to have gone to work at Shufat Market on 24th Street, helping out his Palestinian-born father. "I was really scared, because I thought someone would hit San Francisco as well," young Kamal admitted. "It's really stupid, so terrible that the races all over the world are fighting with each other."

"We always think all the wars are happening outside America," sighed Joe Eadeh, owner of the 24th Street Café and also an immigrant from Palestine. His business was far better than expected for a Tuesday, but "everybody was in a sad, sad, sad face."

A half-block to the east, Jordanian-born Walid Masoud, manager of Urban

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Last Halloween, a little Dracula met up with a very generous Druid at the Ark on 24th Street. Costumed kids can expect to find even more candy and toys (and a whole haunted street) in Noe Valley this year.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

promise not to scare anybody.

As the Big Day draws closer, Mikey-Tom Market at Church and Day streets will be setting up the city's largest organic pumpkin patch, just like last year. Expect

to see pumpkins piled high on Mikey-Tom's sidewalk by about Oct. 10.

Clouds will gather at the Randall Museum on Saturday, Oct. 27, but for the sake of fun and learning, "Stormy Hal-

Flight Attendant Mourned by Her San Francisco Family

Guerrero Street Resident Alicia Titus Died on United Flight 175

By Kathy Dalle-Molle



Twenty-eight-year-old flight attendant Alicia Titus

Fifty friends gathered in San Francisco on Saturday, Sept. 15, to celebrate the life of United Airlines flight attendant Alicia Titus. Titus, who lived on the border between Noe Valley and Bernal Heights, perished on United Flight 175 when it crashed into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11.

"We had Alicia's pictures and books by her favorite authors—Pablo Neruda, Ayn Rand, and Paulo Coelho—all around us," says Tamara Kley, Titus' close friend and roommate. "We had some of her own writings—travel essays, fiction, poetry—too, and I read aloud quotes about happiness from her own writings."

Two days later, more than 500 people, including immediate and extended family, attended a memorial service at Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church in Urbana, Ohio. Titus, who was 28, grew up in nearby St. Paris, Ohio.

Titus was remembered at the service as a person "who embraced peace and life," and her father, John Titus, read a poem he had written, describing his daughter as a "soulful beauty, the embodiment of life....

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loween" is the theme for this year's festivities at the Randall, located at 199 Museum Way off Roosevelt above the Castro. Kids and their parents are invited to get swept up in creepy crafts, ghoulish games, and intricate pumpkin carving. Wear your costume (and you might want to bring an umbrella). For more information, call the Randall at 554-9600.

For those who prefer a more literary approach, the Noe Valley Library at 451 Jersey Street will highlight Halloween during its preschool story time at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 30. Costumes will also be de rigueur at the baby and toddler "lapsits" on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

To get in the spirit, children's librarian Carol Small recommends you check out some new titles at the branch: *Harriet's Halloween Candy* by Nancy Carlson (ages 3 to 5); *The Ghost with the Halloween Hiccups*, by Stephen Mooser and illustrated by Tomie dePaola (6 to 8); *The Adam Joshua Capers: The Halloween Monster*, by Janice Lee Smith (6 to 8); and *175 Easy-to-Do Halloween Crafts*, edited by Sharon Dunn Umnik (6 to 10). Call

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Photo by Pamela Gerard

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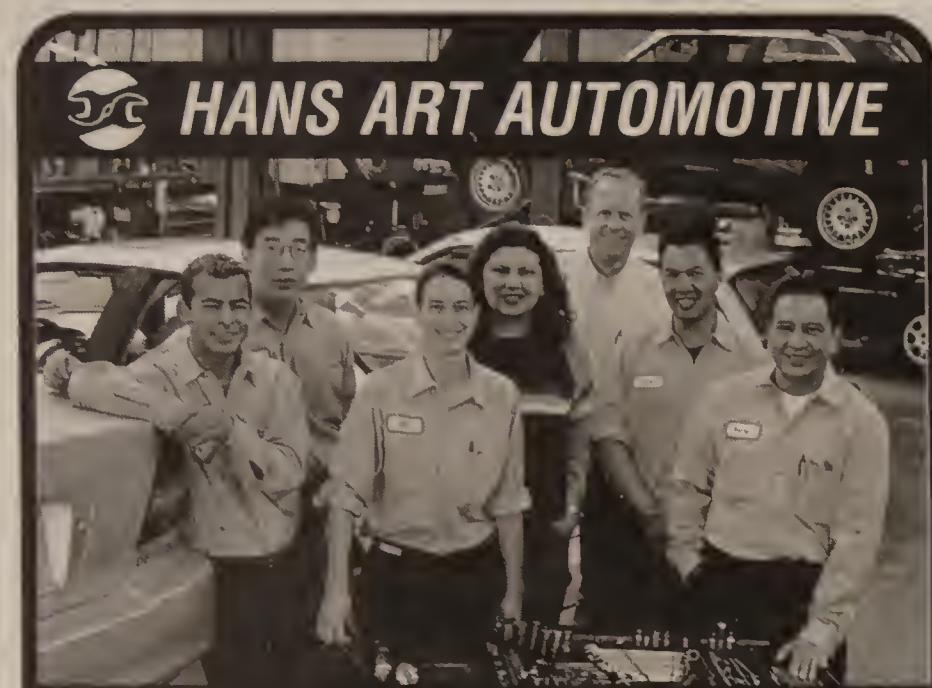
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A Better Way to Push Those Red, White, and Blue Buttons

Editor:

With regard to your story in last month's *Voice* [“Marks on Harry Aleo's Window Show an Ugly Side,” September 2001]: It is clear that Harry Aleo's beliefs and values were formed in the less complicated and simpler world of the '40s and '50s. The Republicans were even the good guys for a time.

However, he has clung to these beliefs, as is his right, in spite of a changed world. He gleefully tweaks the residents of the progressive Noe Valley neighborhood each time he puts up a new hand-lettered sign celebrating some dubious Republican accomplishment or lauding a Republican politician while denigrating a Democrat.

Sure, it's his property, and of course he can do what he wants with it; that's not the issue. But by putting his opinions up-front, for the neighborhood to see and evaluate, he's inviting responses, and it is to be expected that he will draw responses from extremists who have no sense of proportion in political matters and no respect for other people's property.

It goes without saying that he has a First Amendment right to free speech, and so do the thugs who plastered his window with swastikas. But how better to push the red, white, and blue buttons of this veteran who served three years “fighting for freedom” than by defacing his property with this most repugnant of political symbols. More reasonable people know they can demonstrate their lack of agreement with his beliefs by simply not doing business with him, either by not transacting real estate deals with Twin Peaks Properties or by not using Aleo's services as a notary public.

Rosemarie McMichael

Via e-mail

or religion, step in. Speak up. Stand up and be counted among those who would defend what the United States is supposed to be: a place of liberty and justice for all.

Jason Fraser

Via e-mail

Casualty of Rent Control

Editor:

A few weeks ago I attended the funeral of an old friend, Bill Bradley. Bill was the longtime former owner of a building on the corner of Jersey and Castro, which was recently sold on the open market to a local investor/owner of multiple San Francisco properties. Prior to this sale, the building had been sold “on the courthouse steps,” to an attorney representing one of Bill's tenants, for an extremely low price, enabling this tenant to make quite a profit.

It seems Bill had attempted to illegally evict said tenant—contrary to everyone's advice—not believing he could actually lose the building if he screwed it up! His stubbornness and naivety—he was in his 80s—cost him his children's inheritance, and according to his kids, “broke his spirit.” He died not long after losing the building.

Since Bill's kids have accepted their loss—their dad was wrong, the tenant was right, and all was legal—they will not be complaining to anyone. As an old friend of the family, I want to make sure Bill's fate is known: There is no limit to what you can lose if you run afoul of San Francisco's rent control laws!

Lee Bender
Noe Valley resident



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Editorial Office: 415-821-3324

E-Mail: jaxvoice@aol.com

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CO-PUBLISHERS/MANAGING EDITORS
Sally Smith, Jack Tipple

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS AND EDITORS

Kathy Dalle-Molle, Associate Editor

Karol Barske, Calendar Editor

Corrie M. Anders, Heidi Anderson,

Betsy Bannerman, Larry Beresford, Olivia Boler, Helen Colgan, Maire Farrington, Kathryn Guta, Suzanne Herel, Laura McHale Holland, Florence Holub, Jeff Kaliss, Doug Konecky, Janis Cooke Newman, Alison Pence, Elliot Pogar, Stephanie Rapp, Mark Robinson, Pat Rose, Roger Rubin, Steve Steinberg, Justin Taylor, Karen Topakian

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Pamela Gerard, Photo Editor

Beverly Tharp, Senior Photographer

Najib Joe Hakim, Leo Holub,

Charles Kennard, Ken Newman

CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS

Jon Elkin, Jeff Kaplan, Suzanne Scott

ILLUSTRATION

Karol Barske

WEB DESIGN

Elliot Pogar

ADVERTISING SALES

Steve Steinberg, Advertising Manager

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Alicia Titus' friends and family described her as an adventurer who lived life to the fullest. Here she's shown dancing with friends at 111 Minna.

Photo courtesy of Tamara Kley

In Memory of Alicia Titus

Continued from Page 1

Her greatest gifts were peace, love, joy, and life."

Born on June 11, 1973, in Springfield, Ohio, Titus is survived by her parents, John and Bev Titus of Dexter, Mich.; a sister, Shanoa; and brothers Zachery and Elijah, along with her paternal grandparents, maternal grandmother, and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

In front of her apartment building on Guerrero near Duncan Street, where she lived for the past three years, friends and neighbors have set up a small shrine, adorned with floral arrangements, lighted candles, an American flag, photos of Titus, pictures of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and notes of remembrance.

"Never shall I forget the days I spent with you," wrote one friend. "Continue to be my friend as you will always find me yours. Keep on glowing. We love you."

Titus, who earned an undergraduate degree in international marketing from Miami University, left her job as an account manager at Netcentives on Brannan Street last year, to become a flight attendant in hopes of traveling the world. She had been working as a flight attendant for only nine months when she and six other flight attendants, two pilots, and 56 passengers were killed aboard the flight that left Boston at 8:14 a.m. on Sept. 11 bound for Los Angeles.

"I'm sure she found a way to make things easier for the passengers," her aunt Jody Lewis, who is a flight attendant for U.S. Airways, told the *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch*. "If she worked to calm or com-

fort or soothe just one person, that would have been okay for her."

"She had a special kind of energy," Lewis also told the *Dispatch*. "She was self-confident and used that to make sure that everyone around her felt better about themselves. You only had to meet her once to remember her."

Titus already had traveled to Paris, Hawaii, Morocco, and Spain, according to Lewis.

"She was a thrill-seeker, an adventurer, who'd come face to face with a bear, looked into the eyes of a bull on the streets of Spain, and always wanted to harness the power to swim with wild dolphins in the ocean," her aunt said. "One thing she never was, was afraid."

Titus' close friend Tamara Kley recalls that "Alicia loved her neighborhood. One of her favorite places was the top of Bernal Heights, and she loved all the beautiful murals in the neighborhood and getting ice cream at Mitchell's."

The weekend before she lost her life, Titus and Kley spent time in Dolores Park. "It was a beautiful weekend," says Kley. "The sun was out, and we were singing on the swings, playing on the monkey bars."

Kley says that Titus had hoped to be a teacher one day and also to join the Peace Corps. "There were so many things she wanted to do."

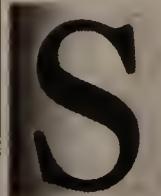
In the coming weeks, Titus' San Francisco friends will be setting up a web site and nonprofit foundation in her memory.

"We want her to be remembered," says Kley.

Titus' parents ask that people wishing to make donations in their daughter's name do so to the Peace Corps or the American Red Cross. For more information about the web site and foundation, e-mail aliciasfund@yahoo.com. □

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Terrorist Attacks Bring Out the Best and Worst

Continued from Page 1

Cellars, was trying to maintain his characteristic benign urbanity as the U.S. Congress sang "God Bless America" on the radio. "Every time I go out to smoke a cigarette, I try to forget about it," he said. "Then I come back in and find the news, and it's still kind of disbelief."

"A black cloud is on everyone's head today," Officer Lorraine Lombardo observed while walking her beat along the shopping district. "People are very sad and upset, but they're also trying to go give blood or just do something to help."

Others headed for Bell Market, where Jeanie, a checker who demurred from giving her surname, experienced a "crazy" Tuesday morning. "Almost every order I had was over one hundred dollars," she reported. "People are buying water, and it's like earthquake mentality."

Realtor Harry Aleo rushed to produce scores of color copies of the American flag, but found his fellow businesspersons reluctant to display them in their windows. "Where is our sense of unity?" Aleo asked rhetorically, noting that many Noe Valley residents were eager to fly their flags.

The unity sought by Aleo demanded a clear-cut villain, and the neighborhood's many merchants of Near and Middle Eastern origin shared the suspicion that the terrorism might have roots somewhere near their homelands.

"I hope not," said Joe Eadeh, "because it's going to develop a lot of backlash."

"If the people who have done this act are from my part of the world, even from Jordan, punish them," insisted Walid Massoud. "But what scares me is, not finding out who the real doers are and just pointing fingers at somebody and starting bombing."

There was no bombing in Noe Valley, but over the next few days the neighborhood experienced its share of the back-



lash feared by Eadeh. The breaking of a window at Sun Valley Dairy on Church Street occurred so early on Tuesday morning that it was more likely an act of petty theft than a demonstration against owner Chuck Rafidi, originally from Palestine's West Bank.

But Rafidi later noted that one of his customers, Najib Joe Hakim, had come by the store to xerox a note left on Hakim's parked vehicle, reading "Please! Remove your PLO sticker or don't park here." Hakim, a staff photographer for the *Voice*, noted that the bumper sticker depicts a Palestinian flag and not anything having to do with the Palestine Liberation Organization. He'd been cautious enough, on Tuesday morning, to remove from his rear window a couple of other stickers reading "Stop U.S. Aid to Israel" and "A Palestinian State for Peace and Justice."

"I felt like somebody in their mind was connecting me or Palestinians in general or the PLO in particular or Arabs or Muslims with this [terrorist] event," said Hakim. "By the way, I'm not Muslim. I'm Christian," as are many of the neighborhood's Near Easterners.

Hakim reported the incident to the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee and to the local police, who managed to identify the neighbor who'd posted the note and to bring him and Hakim together. The neighbor "was afraid someone would target me while my car was parked in front of his house, and he didn't want his house to be damaged in the process," Hakim recounted. "We shook hands, and that was that, pretty much."

On the afternoon of Sept. 12, Yousef "Joe" Louh was confronted by a belligerent customer he didn't recognize at his St. Paul's Market on Sanchez Street.

"He was going to buy a six-pack of beer, and he asked me where I'm from, and I told him I was born and raised here. And he asked me where my parents are from, and I told him it's none of his business," said Louh, whose people are from Jerusalem. "And he just left the six-pack and left the store."

On the morning of the same day, Saif Ataya found his Noe Market on Douglass Street painted with graffiti shouting "Arab go home" and "Terrorist Arabs." Unfortunately, the hateful messages reappeared three days in a row. His daughter, a kindergarten student, faced similar sentiments at school. During the following week, Ataya's store was pelted with eggs and garbage, and his Daly City residence was smeared with dog and cat feces. He temporarily shortened his business hours, and appealed for police surveillance.

"I'm Muslim and proud to be Muslim," said Ataya, who came to the U.S. in 1991 as a political refugee from Iraq. "But the religion where I'm from believes in peace. We don't even believe in retaliation."

Prior to his weekend offering of brunch on Sept. 15, Abed Amas was phoned by his chef and busboy, who'd discovered red paint splattered on the front step of Fattoush, Amas' Church Street eatery. "I think this is probably a bunch of kids," opined the Palestinian restaurateur. "Maybe someone went through the Yellow Pages and found Middle Eastern restaurants."

All these despicable acts have been balanced by the sort of support which these merchants have come to expect from their neighborhood. "One of my neighbors was in tears," said Amas. "She said, 'I never thought this would happen here.'"

Ataya of Noe Market is certain that his defamers are "not my customers, not my

Twenty-fourth Street looked like a ghost town the morning after Sept. 11, as most residents, still reeling from the shock, stayed home to watch the news on TV.

Within a few days, the flower shops at 24th and Castro had created a memorial where people could say prayers and light candles in honor of the innocent victims of the attacks.

Photos by Pamela Gerard

neighbors," who "come here to check on us, which lifts our spirit up a little bit."

Louh's corner store has begun functioning as an all-day community gathering place, and he has tangible reasons to believe that "my friends wouldn't let anything happen."

Meanwhile, shops, churches, and residences all over Noe Valley have sprouted signs reading, "Noe Valley Is a Hate-free Zone." Global Exchange, which inspired the "hate-free" campaign, posted a second notice: "As we grieve, let us remember that vengeance offers no relief."

Churches such as Bethany, St. Paul's, and the Noe Valley Ministry continue to hold prayer and meditation vigils.

Noe Valley rabbi Gedalia Potash has found himself echoing the words of local Arab-Americans: "The only thing we can do is really support each other."

During recent gatherings of his Chabad congregation in observance of Jewish high holidays, Potash advised that, "When such an event happens, a tremendous amount of energy is generated within the community, and it's important to channel any such energy in a positive way. I'm quoting the prophesy in Isaiah, about 'beating the swords into plowshares,' [because] we could make the mistake that the terrorists are making, to hold civilians and innocent people accountable."

"People should take a very strong lesson about the importance of every individual," Potash continued. "There were a maximum of a hundred [terrorists] who managed to pull off such a terrible thing, which teaches us the power of each individual, which we can learn in a positive sense, about how we have to care for a child from day one and make sure everyone is educated with proper values." □

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LETTERS 34¢

Be Responsible for Your Dog

Editor:

While walking my two dogs on leash at 7:45 a.m. one recent morning, a large (85 to 100 pounds), intact male dog bounded off the property at the rear of a house on Noe Street, ran across the street, and charged straight at me and my dogs. The owner of this dog was nowhere in sight and made no verbal or physical effort to stop her dog from charging us. By the time she finally ran across the street, all three dogs were in contact with each other as I tried to separate them to prevent a possible dog fight or attack.

This is the second time that this woman has allowed her dog to run off her property, race across the street, and charge at me and my two dogs. Not only did the situation frighten me both times, but the dog owner put her own dog in serious jeopardy by allowing him to run across a busy street unescorted and unrestrained.

Given the recent tragic events surrounding the death of Diane Whipple, I find it shocking that any dog owner could be so reckless and irresponsible.

One of my dogs is blind, and surprise approaches from strange dogs can be frightening for her. My other dog is also often afraid of strange dogs, especially large ones.

Owners whose dogs are off leash often say to me, "Don't worry — my dog is friendly," not stopping to think that when strange dogs come together, the results can sometimes be anything but friendly.

Both of my dogs are licensed with the city, and I keep them on leashes at all times when walking in public areas. It is outrageous that others cannot be considerate enough to do the same.

A. Cohen
Via e-mail

Greetings from 'Way, Way Back'

Hi, Gang:

I was visiting the Noe Valley area yesterday and came upon your great paper, and was wondering if this paper can be sent out to areas other than in the San Francisco area. (Yes, it can. See subscription information on page 4.—Ed.)

I lived on 22nd Street back in the '40s (4016 22nd Street) and visit the area quite often. My family lived in "the Valley" for years, and my uncle had the old Florence Market across from St. Clair's Liquor Store "way, way back."

In fact, I remember when the old coal store was next to the Bank of America — my God, am I getting old!

Keep me posted if you would. Thanks for keeping Noe Valley as great, beautiful, and classy as it is.

Deputy Fire Chief Joe Quadrat
Hillsborough Fire Department
1600 Floribunda Ave.
Hillsborough, CA 94010



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How Patriotic Is Flag Waving?

Editor:

Since the tragic and diabolical terrorism perpetuated on our nation, American flags have had a ubiquitous presence. The people who wave these flags think that by doing so that they are showing their patriotism. However, patriotism takes more than waving an American flag during a time of crisis.

True patriotism in my view is something you do every day by helping your nation to be just and fair to all citizens. This takes work, such as being involved in civic and community affairs. This takes being aware of how our government works and how we can make it work for the betterment of not only our country but also all countries throughout the world. This means keeping up with government activities and getting involved in our neighborhood, our community, our workplaces, our local and state governments and ultimately in our national government.

How many of those jingoistic flag wavers can really say they are patriots? Being a citizen of the United States or waving an American flag does not a patriot make.

Denise D'Anne
Guerrero Street

Focus on Peace

Editor:

We have the opportunity to turn a very negative series of occurrences into something very positive and beautiful...a chance to ensure that the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks didn't die in vain.

It's a very simple thing, really. Focus one moment on peace....

These events spoke of something more than racial or political blind hatred. Like all wars, they began with a severe breakdown in communication, a loss of intent to be in coexistence with one another.

We need a true dialogue between all people about all things. We as a world need to grow up and take an honest look around. We've made a collective mess of it. Time to clean up our rooms and put up our toys for a while.

Talk of war, vengeance, violence, and hatred may feel good for us right now. But we can learn to do something creative, instead of destructive, with this complex combination of emotions. Treat the crimes as crimes, seeking the criminals and proving the actions and intents in the World Court. Let a global consensus occur that shows that as a planet, terrorism is an unacceptable form of behavior.

But then, do more. Sit down at the table with those who have issues. Listen to one another as human beings, not enemies. See the commonalities beyond the differences. Learn to co-exist.

Focus on peace, just a few minutes a day.

Rev. Sister Rosemarie, DSM
Third Order Disciples of St. Martin
de Porres, St. Martin de Porres Chapel,
San Francisco

LETTERS to the EDITOR

THE VOICE welcomes your letters to the editor. Write the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Or send e-mail to jaxvoice@aol.com. Please include your name, address, and phone number. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) You may also send us mail via our web site: www.noevalleyvoice.com. Letters may be edited for brevity or clarity.

Favorite Halloween Haunts

Continued from Page 1

Small for more fall tall tales: 695-5095.

A Toy Treat at Just for Fun

On Halloween Day, which is a Wednesday this year, things get rolling around 11 a.m., when the little Uncle Sams and Power Puff Girls parade their stuff on 24th Street, stopping at shops along the way.

Noe Valley Bakery and the Ark are prepared, and so is Just for Fun, the stationery and gift shop at 3982 24th Street. The staff will hand out a small toy to each costumed child who marches by. St. Philip's School and Alvarado Elementary are expected to send several contingents.

"The school principals usually call me and let me know how many kids are coming," says Just for Fun co-owner David Eiland. "Then we check with our warehouse and find out what toy is 'in.' One year the kids all got small Teletubbies."

On Halloween night, Eiland plans to close the store about an hour early. But his staff will stay outside until 8 p.m., doling out toys to the evening visitors.

Up the street at Small Frys, shop owner Carol Yenne will be waiting for the tricksters with candy, which she promises will be yummy. "We've tried to give out healthier stuff, but really, the kids just want candy!" she laughs.

Real Food Company at 24th and Sanchez is gearing up to hold its sixth annual costume contest. All Rugrats and Invader Zims are asked to report to the store at any time on Halloween Day and have their picture taken. Costumes will be judged for the scariest, ugliest, and, of course, most original. Winners' pictures



This Church Street barbershop promises some amazing Halloween specials. Just check out the hairstyles on the models in the window.

Photo by Pamela Gerord

will be featured in the store's window the following week.

They're Jumpy at Upper Noe

At the other end of Noe Valley, at Day and Sanchez streets, Upper Noe Recreation Center will be hosting three different parties on the 31st. The little ones, ages 1 to 3, are invited to kick off the celebration at 10:30 a.m. Their party will feature a costume parade around the block and a visit to the "Jumpy House," a huge inflated funhouse perfect for bouncing around in.

Next, the Upper Noe Seniors will hold a carnival from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Recreation director Chris Borg says the group will sit down for a special Halloween lunch, bingo, games, and prizes.

Upper Noe will then be taken over by the big kids. From 3:30 to 6 p.m., 3- to 12-year-olds will have their chance at the

Jumpy House, plus some games and prizes of their own. There will be a costume fashion show, and the whole thing will wrap up with a potluck dinner (hint: this is an excellent way to get some complex carbohydrates and protein into those tummies before they hit the streets cruising for sugar).

Tom Maravilla of MikeyTom, which is two blocks from both the Rec Center and St. Paul's Elementary School, says he expects at least 300 children to stop by during the day, and about the same number at night. There will be upscale candy, he says, but not anything necessarily healthy. "As if there is such a thing as healthy candy, really!"

One-Stop Witch's Brew

At the One-Stop Party Shop, on Church at 28th Street, owner Mardie Van der Vort will set out her traditional witch

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and cauldron oozing with dry ice, at around 5 p.m. She is also planning a few surprises to make this Halloween extra-special. "We will do whatever we can to make it a good day for the kids, especially this year," she says.

Not to be outdone, the folks up on Hoffman Avenue are proud to announce that their haunted-house tradition has blossomed into "Hoffman: The Haunted Street." Kids of all ages who venture along Hoffman from 22nd to 25th streets will be lured into several ghastly Victorians, some of which are actually haunted by Victorians.

Chiming in as usual with the Hoffman crowd will be the firefighters from Fire Station 24, at 100 Hoffman Avenue near Alvarado. The crew says they will be ready with treats from 5 to 8 p.m., for the first 300 trick-or-treaters.

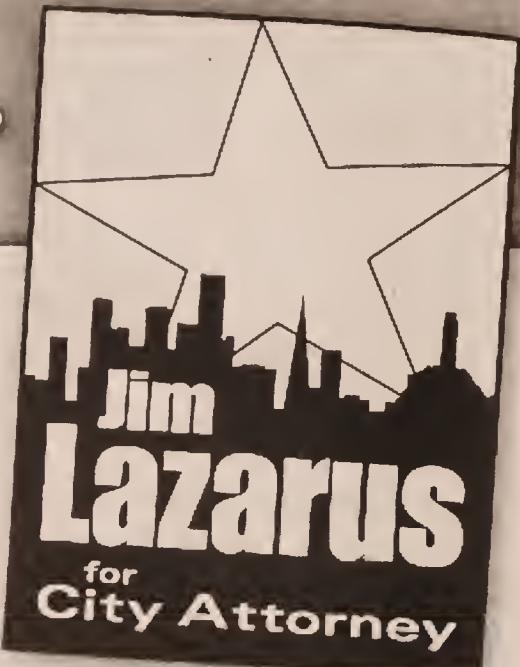
What do you want to bet some Noe Valley spirits will make sure the firehouse has more than enough candy? Have fun! □



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NOE BUYS / NOE RENTS

Two Condos Sell for \$1.4 Million—Prior to Sept. 11

September and October are usually two of the busiest months in which to buy or sell homes in Noe Valley. But whether the terrorist attacks—and the continuing reverberation in the economy and the American psyche—will hurt the fall buying season won't be determined for a while.

"It's too early to tell," said Randall Kostick, manager of Zephyr Real Estate on 24th Street. The impact won't truly be known until November, when homes sold in September and October should formally close escrow.

Home buyers were active, however, in the weeks just prior to the Sept. 11 suicide attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, according to a monthly report Zephyr prepares for the *Noe Valley Voice*.

Two newly constructed townhouse-style

condominiums on Duncan Street sold for \$1,450,000 each in August, the latest month for which data was available. "That's pretty incredible," Kostick said of the nearly 3,000-square-foot homes. "I've been in the market for 15 years, and I can't think of a condo that went for a higher price than a house."

A four-bedroom home on Eureka Street sold for \$1,293,000 in August. It was the month's most expensive single-family home.

Overall, eight condos and eight single-family homes changed hands during August. But buyers generally paid slightly less than the seller's initial asking price—and sales took a week or so longer to close escrow than in previous months.

—Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley House Sales – August 2001*

Total Sales (Closings During Month)	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Average Days on Market	Sale Price As % of List Price
<i>Single-family homes</i>					
8	664,500	1,293,000	843,312	35	99%
<i>Condominiums</i>					
8	454,000	1,450,000	818,500	45	101%
<i>2 to 4 unit buildings</i>					
3	585,000	1,080,000	838,333	87	93%
<i>5+ unit buildings</i>					
1	1,375,000	1,375,000	1,375,000	36	97%

Noe Valley House Sales – July 2001*

Total Sales (Closings During Month)	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Average Days on Market	Sale Price As % of List Price
<i>Single-family homes</i>					
11	390,000	1,300,000	808,181	30	101%
<i>Condominiums</i>					
10	320,000	640,000	503,500	36	100%
<i>2 to 4 unit buildings</i>					
4	575,000	975,000	720,000	43	98%
<i>5+ unit buildings</i>					
0	—	—	—	—	—

*Information provided to the *Noe Valley Voice* courtesy of Zephyr Real Estate (www.zephyr-re.com) and based on all Noe Valley home sales (closings) recorded during the month. "Noe Valley" in this survey is defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets.

Noe Valley Rents**

Apartment Size	Average Rents (April–June 2001)	Average Rents (January–March 2001)	% Increase (+) or Decrease (-)
Studio	\$ 1,376 / mo.	\$ 1,313 / mo.	+ 4.8%
1 bedroom	1,766 / mo.	2,088 / mo.	-15.4%
2 bedrooms	2,651 / mo.	2,604 / mo.	+ 1.8%
3 or more bedrooms	3,358 / mo.	3,536 / mo.	-5.0%

**Data based on rentals listed by Rent Tech, Inc. (www.renttech.com), through June 30, 2001. Data for the third quarter (July–September 2001) will be published in the November *Voice*.

Tonight, make it vegetarian

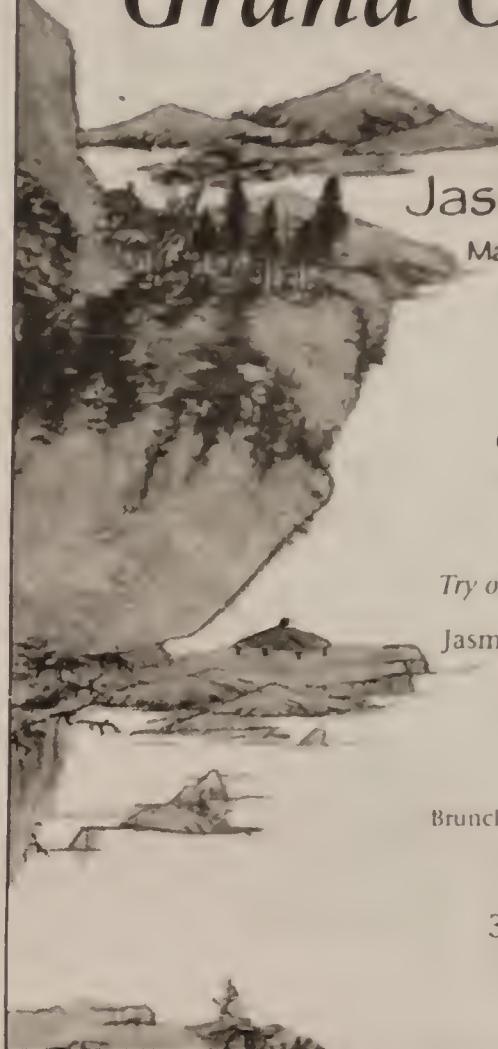


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St. Philip's Says Prayers for the Shami Family

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

Students at St. Philip's School are coping well following the tragic deaths of Jasmin and Jamilah Shami, two sisters who had attended the Elizabeth Street school, says Principal Stephen Farren.

Jasmin, 15, and Jamilah, 9—along with their parents, Anthony, 36, and Anna, 37—were found murdered in their St. Mary's Park home on Sunday, Sept. 9. Although news reports originally suggested that Anthony Shami murdered his family and then committed suicide, homicide officials from the San Francisco Police Department say they are investigating the case as a quadruple murder.

On Sept. 16, several of the girls' classmates, as well as teachers, parents, and staff from St. Philip's, attended a funeral mass at St. Dunstan's Church in Millbrae, where members of the Shamis' extended family live. Father Michael Healy, pastor of St. Philip's Church, was the principal celebrant at the service for the two girls and their mother.

Jasmin had graduated from St. Philip's in June 2000 and was a sophomore at Mills High School in Millbrae at the time

of her death. Her younger sister was in the fourth grade at St. Philip's.

"Both Jasmin and Jamilah were smart, articulate, athletic girls," recalls Farren. "Jasmin really had a special way about her. She was very outgoing and welcoming. She was always able to make someone new to the school feel comfortable. Both girls also had a great sense of humor and were very warm individuals."

Farren says that Anna Shami was involved in parish and school activities and that both parents "were very interested in their children's education. Both parents attended parent-teacher conferences, and if we ever needed to reach either parent, they were very accessible to us."

On the morning following the tragedy, Monday, Sept. 10, Father Healy led a schoolwide prayer service in St. Philip's Church. A grief counselor from the San Francisco Archdiocese visited the school later in the week to offer counseling to Jamilah's fourth-grade classmates.

A counselor also offered guidance to Remy Everett, Jamilah's teacher, about how to help students say goodbye to their classmate. A memorial altar with a candle and two vases of flowers was set up at Jamilah's desk, and

students expressed their grief by writing letters to Jamilah and drawing pictures of rainbows, butterflies, flowers, and friends playing together.

"The prayer service had a very calming effect on the students," says Farren. "I think it really helped that we came together as a community early on that Monday morning. We explained to students that what happened to Jamilah and Jasmin was a

tragedy, but that we needed to celebrate their lives and that they are in a good place now, where they are happy."

Farren also notes that it was a "very unusual situation" for the students to have to cope with the grief of losing a classmate and then the following day to have to deal with the horror of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C. Like all public and Catholic schools in San Francisco, St. Philip's sent students home on Sept. 11, following the three airplane attacks on the East Coast.

"Everything considered, the students seem to be doing very well," says Farren.

Farren has received suggestions from members of the school community about setting up a remembrance at the school in honor of the two Shami girls, perhaps a

scholarship in their name. He says he will be consulting with school board members, Father Healy, and Shami family members in the near future about various possibilities. At press time, Farren also was hoping to schedule a memorial mass for Jamilah and Jasmin to which the entire parish community would be invited.

"I think it is very important at a time like this that people come together, that there is a sense of community," says Farren. "We need to celebrate the gifts the family brought to us while they were here."



Jamilah Shami

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POLICE B E A T

Bird Stolen from Pet Store

The following crime summaries were culled from incident reports filed at Mission Police Station from Aug. 6 to Aug. 25, 2001.

Grand Theft: 1:30 p.m. on Aug. 6; 4200 block of 24th Street

The owner of a pet store on 24th Street told police she was standing near the front of the store on the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 6, when a man, 6 feet in height, weighing 170 pounds, aged 25 to 30, ran from the rear of the store, where the birds are kept, and out the front door. Given the man's suspicious behavior, the owner took a count of the birds and determined that an African Gray Parrot was missing. The owner then ran outside to see if she could spot the suspect, but he was already gone.

A witness later told police that he saw the suspect running from the store with a bulge under his shirt and that "part of a bird" appeared to be sticking out. He also heard the bird squawking.

The witness saw the suspect get into a black Camaro and drive eastbound on 24th Street toward Castro. Police searched the area, but were unable to find the suspect.

Theft of Checks or Credit Cards: Between 2:30 p.m. on Aug. 6 and 2 p.m. on Aug. 11; 4000 block of 26th Street

A resident of a home on 26th Street near Sanchez decided to have a local bed-and-breakfast rent out an apartment in her home when she was out of town in early August. The B&B found a 30-year-old male tenant, who agreed to rent the apartment for five days.

Upon her return home, the resident found that the suspect had opened her mail and broken into a file cabinet containing other personal records. The suspect had also scattered papers throughout the apartment, and damaged her rug and light fixtures. He also had left traces of hair dye on her floors.

Later, the resident received a call from a credit card representative inquiring about an attempt to charge \$1,000 to her account. She told the representative the charge was not hers. The representative went on to inform her of other suspicious charges, which the resident also denied.

Meanwhile, a neighbor the resident had asked to feed her cat while she was away told the resident that the tenant had invited "a street-type" male guest to spend the night. The neighbor provided a description of the suspect and his guest.

The case has been assigned to the Police Department's Fraud Unit.

Burglary and Unlawful Entry: 5:05 a.m. on Aug. 8; 4100 block of 26th Street

The resident of an apartment building on 26th Street near Noe told police he was asleep on his bed in the early morn-

ing hours of Wednesday, Aug. 8, when he was awakened by a noise coming from a couch near his bed. He saw an unknown man, dressed in a long-sleeved dark T shirt with white lettering, crouched near the couch. The suspect appeared to be looking for something. The resident jumped out of bed and ran out of the building to call police.

Upon arrival, police searched the apartment but failed to locate the suspect. They later determined that the suspect entered the apartment through an unlocked rear door. No items appeared to be stolen.

Malicious Mischief and Vandalism to Property: Between 10 p.m. on Aug. 24 and 10 a.m. on Aug. 25; 24th Street and environs

A graffiti vandal, who has adopted the nickname "Mayhem," went on a spray-painting spree on the night of Friday, Aug. 24, placing his tag on many properties in Noe Valley. Apartment buildings, stores, and restaurants along 24th Street were tagged, along with spots at Noe Courts Park. The vandal spray-painted his tag in white and black paint on the planter box in front of one restaurant and left a green insignia on the side of an apartment building on Douglass Street.

According to Police Officer Lois Perillo of San Francisco's Graffiti Abatement Program, police have not yet identified the "Mayhem" suspect, who also left his tag at the Forest Hill Muni Station near the Youth Guidance Center.

Merchants and residents should report any graffiti problems directly to the Graffiti Abatement Program by phoning

558-5445. People also may report incidents online by logging on to www.greatestgraffiti.com.

POLICE CONTACTS

The Voice thanks Noe Valley Police Officer Lorraine Lombardo for providing the incident reports for this month's Police Beat. Officer Lombardo, along with Mission Station Captain Ron Roth, encourages Noe Valley residents and merchants to attend the police community meeting held the last Tuesday of the month at Mission Station, 630 Valencia Street. The next meeting is Oct. 30 at 6 p.m.

Mission Police Station covers the northern half of Noe Valley, from 21st Street to Cesar Chavez. Residents are welcome to call the station at 558-5400 or send e-mail to sfpdmisionstation@ci.sf.ca.us. To report anonymously on drugs, gangs, or other crime, call the non-traceable police hotline at 558-5452.

Those Noe Valleyans who live south of Cesar Chavez fall within the Ingleside Police District. Ingleside community meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at Ingleside Station, 1 Sergeant John Young Lane, off San Jose Avenue. The next meeting is set for Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. To contact Ingleside Station, call Captain Marsha Ashe at 404-4000 or e-mail marsha-ashe@ci.sf.ca.us.

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The Medium Is the Message. There are many Noe Valley residents who will be baring their artistic souls at Open Studios weekend Oct. 6-7. Front row from left: David Smith, Ariane, Rick Price, Martha Hubert, Lora Abrador, Mark Campbell, Camilla Newhagen. Middle row: W.P. Ross Munro, Michael Markowitz, Sherrod Blankner, Deborah Hicks, Gisela Hirschberger, Susan LaFranchi-Madonich. Back row: Nancy Otto, David LeCheminant, Nina Goldfeather, Ellen Singletary, Chris Grassano, Ben Pax, Jenny Badger, Sultan, Diane Rollins, Sherri Hepler.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

Take a Walking Tour of Noe Valley Artists

By Laura McHale Holland

Each weekend in October visual artists throughout the city will open their doors for San Francisco Open Studios 2001. Approximately 35 participating artists based in Noe Valley hope their neighbors will stop by to get acquainted.

Some artists are exhibiting in small, home-based studios; others are grouped together in more public venues. Some are seasoned artists who have participated in this event for many years; others are new to their craft and showing their work for the first time.

"We have at least 12 artists who have been using our studio as their place of creativity," says Christine Simmons, owner

of Terra Mia, a ceramics studio on Castro at 24th Street. "They're all local, and excited about being able to show their work and actually maybe create a new career for themselves by selling it. For me, it's rewarding to add a different dimension to the shop, where people can come in and get inspired by some high-quality artwork, and it's wonderful to support such an important and lasting program," she adds.

Open Studios began in 1975, with 150 artists who lived in artists' lofts in the South of Market warehouse district. "Open Studios was formed to address the primary challenge for all artists — gaining recognition through exhibits of their work. This small group of artists in the '70s collaborated and came up with the idea to use their studios as exhibit space and open them to the public," notes long-time participant and landscape painter Sherrod Blankner, whose studio is above Little Lizards on 24th Street.

Now produced by the non-profit ArtSpan, the event has grown to include 750 artists. The show is not juried, and all

manner of fine arts and crafts are represented, including painting, sculpture, mixed media, ceramics, print-making, glass, furniture, jewelry, and photography.

Artists are grouped by neighborhood, and each group exhibits only one weekend of the month. Noe Valley is set for the first weekend, Oct. 6-7. Exhibiting the same weekend will be artists in the Castro, Duboce, Mission, Glen Park, and Bernal Heights.

On Oct. 13-14, artists will display work in the Richmond, Sunset, Fort Mason, Marina, Pacific Heights, Haight, Western Addition, Buena Vista, West Portal, Diamond Heights, Twin Peaks, and Mount Davidson. Oct. 20-21 will feature artists in the South of Market, Potrero Hill, North Beach, Russian Hill, Tenderloin, Financial District, Bayview, Portola, and Excelsior neighborhoods. On Oct. 27-28, artists in Hunters Point will open their doors.

A free guide to all the artists in this

Continued on Next Page



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Open Doors to Local Art Oct. 6-7

Continued from Previous Page

year's Open Studios will be available in selected bookstores, retail stores, and coffee shops. It features images of artists' work and contact information for over 650 of the participants. In addition, a map of studio locations will be published each Wednesday of October in the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*.

Ellen Singletary, a painter and poet who integrates original text into all of her canvases, is one of five artists who will be exhibiting at Noe Art Space, a gallery within Value Vacation's office at Sanchez and 23rd streets. For Singletary, it is a perfect fit. "When I went to Open Studios last year, I found that it was easier to park and go in and see eight, nine, or even 20 artists at the same place. So when I found out about Noe Art Space, I thought it would be good because with five artists together, I think we'll get more foot traffic."

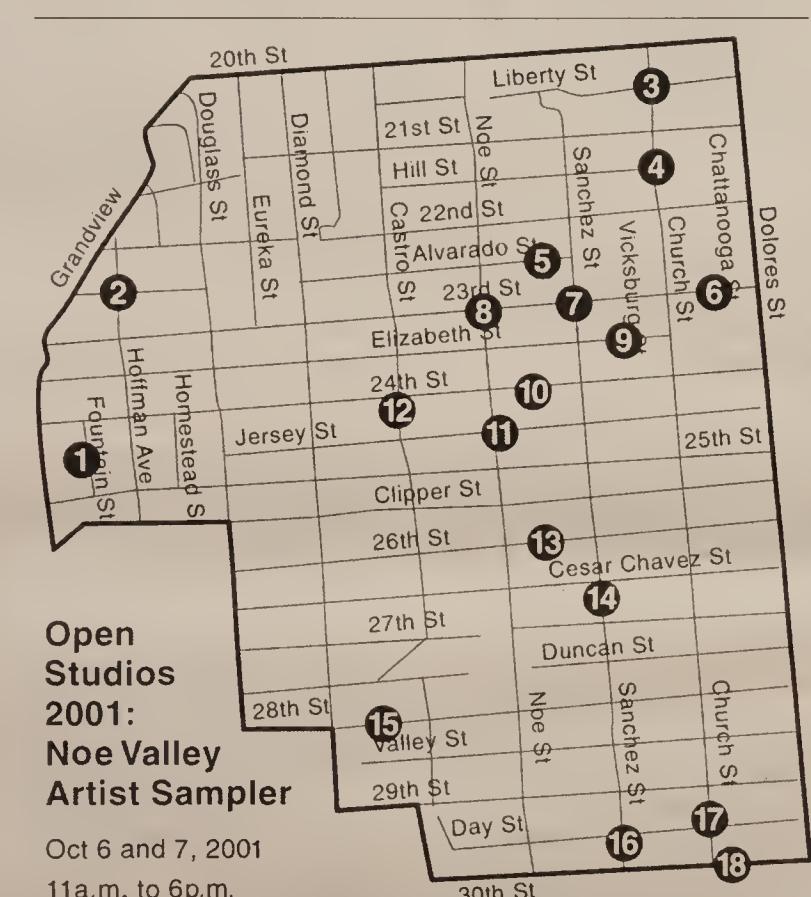
Other artists, such as Sanchez Street

resident John-Claude Hundt, enjoy inviting people into their personal workspace. A resident of Noe Valley for six years, Hundt paints in the home he occupies with graphic designer Rachael Brune. He describes his paintings as being "like archaeological digs, layers upon layers of imagery much like sedimentary rock."

Another artist who will open his doors is painter Mark Campbell, of 101 Hoffman Avenue. Campbell, who has been the artist-in-residence for an elder program at Laguna Honda Hospital for the past four years, says much of his work is "rooted in my love and awe of the human body."

Campbell's and his fellow artists' studios will be open both Saturday and Sunday, and admission is free. The opening reception — at SomArts Gallery, 934 Brannan Street — is also free and will be Friday, Oct. 5, from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

A special preview, providing an exclusive first look at one piece of work by each of the participating artists, will be held Oct. 4, from 6:30 to 10 p.m., also at SomArts Gallery. Tickets for this event are \$100 to \$125 via www.artspan.org or 861-9838. For all other information about Open Studios, call 646-0959, or visit www.sopenstudios.com. □



1. Kelly Carlisle 59 Fountain Street
2. Mark Campbell 101 Hoffman Avenue
3. Camilla Newhagen 294 Liberty Street
4. Susan LaFranchi-Madonich 947 Church Street, #5
5. Lora Arbrador 426 Alvarado Street
6. Michael Markowitz 3747 23rd Street
7. Noe Art Space Group: Dennis Gardner, Martha Hubert, Richard Price, Diane Rollins, Ellen Singletary 3901 23rd Street
8. Linda Saytes 1003B Noe Street
9. David LeCheminant 206 Vicksburg St.
10. Sherrod Blankner 3963-A 24th Street
11. Ben Pax 272 Jersey Street
12. Terra Mia Studio: Susan Arnot, Renata Belash, Pali Boucher, Blanche Brown, Deborah Hicks, Rea Inglesis, Scott Jennings, Lisa Lazarus, Doriene Lopez, Mary Novie, Clarissa Moreno, Susan Sternau 1314 Castro Street
13. Gisela Hirschberger 4051 26th Street
14. John Claude Hundt 1375 Sanchez Street
15. Sherri Hepler 537 Valley Street
16. Jenny Badger Sultan 1696 Sanchez Street
Henry Sultan 1698 Sanchez Street
17. Ariane 1747 Church Street
18. Charles Trapolin 288 30th Street

Noe Valley Says Farewell to Two Longtime Merchants

Colorcrane Founder Tom Crane Quickened the Pace of 24th Street

By Steve Steinberg

Tom Crane, a pioneering Noe Valley merchant, passed away this summer. Crane, 58, died on Aug. 21, 2001, from a recurrent brain tumor. He leaves behind a wife, Ana Gonzalez-Crane, and three sons, Simon, 28, Christopher, 22, and Timothy, 8. His father and sister also survive him.

Back in the early 1970s, Crane helped change the commercial character of 24th Street when he and his first wife, Margaret Maker, opened Colorcrane, an art and photography supply store at 3957 24th Street. Colorcrane, which is still there, was an ideal venue for both their interests: Maker was an artist, and Crane was an avid photographer, who liked to do black-and-white portraits and "people shots." The couple hoped to cater to the many artists who had congregated in the area at a time when the neighborhood was still relatively affordable.

The store was a novelty for Noe Valley. "Tom started Colorcrane when the neighborhood was on the verge of change from a sleepy, blue-collar community," said Gonzalez-Crane. The store tried to be innovative, featuring one-hour photo development years before the service became commonplace. Later, Crane introduced a copy center.

Crane loved his store and the neighborhood, Gonzalez-Crane said. "The time he owned Colorcrane and lived in Noe Valley was the happiest time in his life."

Crane became active in Noe Valley community and commercial affairs, serving as president of the Noe Valley Merchants Association for several years. He also helped initiate the Noe Valley Street Fair, an annual event in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Ron Green, who once owned a store called the Plant Works on 24th Street a few doors down from Colorcrane, remembers Crane not only as a "great guy and good person," but as "quite a character," who used to like to skateboard to work back in the '70s. Green, who now lives in Lake County, also said that Crane was instrumental in changing the pulse of Noe Valley's main street. "He tried to bring more people to 24th Street and make it a more friendly shopping street."

Crane, Green recalls, was one of the first merchants to place a bench outside his store. Green and Crane remained in touch throughout the years, even after both men left Noe Valley.

Linda Ramey, co-owner of Common Scents at 3920 24th Street, remembers Crane not only as a "great business person," but as someone who always tried to be helpful to people. "He was a sweet and courageous person," said Ramey, who noted that despite his illness, "he always tried to find a way to be useful and productive."

Crane's initial bout with a brain tumor and resultant surgery in the early 1980s forced him to sell the business in 1987. He and his family moved from Noe Val-

ley, first to the West Portal area of the city and then to Daly City, where he lived up until his death. Gonzalez-Crane said her husband always regretted leaving Noe Valley, but the family could not afford the neighborhood's ever increasing rents.

Born in Minneapolis, Minn., Crane graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in chemistry. A gifted athlete, Crane attained a spot on the U.S. ski team and tried out for the Olympics in the 1960s. Unfortunately, a bad spill during the tryouts ended his skiing career.

But Crane channeled his athletic energies in other ways. He was an enthusiastic cyclist, who participated in the California AIDS bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles three times. Maker remembered her ex-husband as someone who had high energy and athleticism. "He was strong and persevering and pushed himself beyond his limits."

Before he started his business, Crane sold pharmaceutical supplies. After he sold the store, he worked for a time as a financial consultant. He had not been able to work for about the last four years, however, because of his condition.

Besides his store, Crane's great love in life was his family. "He was a fabulous, doting father," recalled Maker. The two had maintained a close friendship even after their divorce. "He was a caring family person. It was so clear that his family meant everything to him," said Ramey of Common Scents.

Crane maintained his courage and determination even during the last phase of his illness. "He never complained in spite of how difficult things were," said Gonzalez-Crane. "He just focused on getting better, day by day. He never grew bitter or cynical, but always remained positive.... I miss him a lot."

Anyone wishing to make a contribution in Tom Crane's memory should contact the Zen Hospice Project at 415-863-2910 or the California AIDS Ride at 415-908-0400. □



Tom Crane was an innovator who brought a copy center and a wealth of photo and art supplies to Noe Valley. 1989 photo by Tom Wochs

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Astrid Doder Was a 'Mother Figure' at Astrid's Rabat Shoes

By Steve Steinberg

Longtime Noe Valley merchant Astrid Doder has died. Doder, owner of Astrid's Rabat Shoes at 3909 24th Street, passed away on June 20 after a prolonged illness. In her 70s, Doder had owned the popular shoe store since 1977.

Doder's husband, Hal, characterized his wife as a "wonderful, beautiful, and compassionate woman, who related to people of all ages." He praised the courage she had shown in coping with a number of surgeries related to her illness over the past few years. "She never gave up hope," he said.

Doder also had an exceptional relationship with her store employees.

"She was much more than a boss," said Veronica Ruedrich, manager of the shop. "She was a mother figure, too, and would really listen to you. She was very caring."

Ruedrich described Doder as a generous and accepting person, who especially liked people "who were different and exciting."

Ruedrich said she was going to miss her boss. "I can still hear her when she would call me on the phone," she said. "The loss hits you a little at a time."

Born as Astrid Ramberg in the town of Nynashamn, Sweden, Doder came to San Francisco in 1949. "She wanted to see the world, particularly California and San Francisco," said Hal.

An exceptionally beautiful young woman, Doder did modeling and photography work before landing a job at Gump's, the elegant downtown furniture and accessory store. For many years, Doder sold Baccarat crystal for Gump's and even dated storeowner Richard Gump. Hal said that Gump wanted to marry her, but "lucky for me, she said no thanks."

Hal and Astrid first met in 1957 at the Iron Horse Restaurant, a popular watering hole on Maiden Lane in the Financial District. The two were married on Valentine's Day, 1960. "I had no excuse to forget an anniversary," Hal said.

The couple lived on Hill Street in Noe Valley until 1975, when they bought a house in Larkspur, in Marin County. The house became one of Doder's three great passions in life, along with gardening and entertaining. Hal said Doder loved to give



Astrid Doder ran a thriving shoe store on 24th Street for close to 25 years.

Photo courtesy of Hal Doder

dinner parties for their many friends and would spend weeks planning and preparing for them. Doder also lavished much care on the flowers she planted every spring.

Doder had no real business experience when she bought Rabat Shoes, as the store was then known, in 1977. Hal, who worked in real estate, learned that the store—which at the time was located on Vicksburg Street—was up for sale and suggested to his wife that it might be a good opportunity for her.

Although Doder knew very little about the shoe business when she took Rabat over, she still managed to make the store a success and a Noe Valley mainstay. "She learned the shoe business and was very proud of the store," said Hal.

Doder moved the store to its present location on 24th Street near Sanchez in the early 1980s. Her husband said he had no plans at present to close the store and had confidence in Ruedrich's ability to manage the business.

Doder made several trips back to her native Sweden over the years, her last visit being in 1995. "She enjoyed Sweden but never expressed a desire to live there again," said Hal.

The last visit in particular brought back many childhood memories. She saw several old girlfriends and her sister, who died shortly before she did. Hal said Astrid was planning another trip this summer, but her condition worsened.

Besides her husband, she is survived by a niece and nephew in Sweden. □



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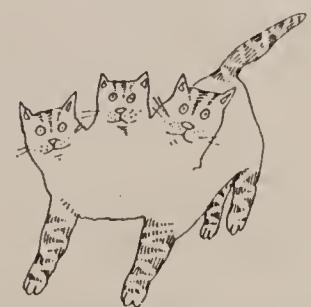
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Rash of Liquor Thefts Leaves Its Mark on Rite Aid and Bell

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

After two recent shoplifting incidents in which the culprits threatened violence, Rite Aid Supervisor Sharon Young says she doesn't feel safe in the 24th Street drugstore where she has worked for the past five years. "Shoplifting definitely seems worse in the neighborhood than when I first started working here," Young says. "I feel like I'm under enormous stress when I come to work."

The two incidents that have left Young fearful occurred in broad daylight on a weekend in mid-August. Both involved thefts of liquor.

In the first, on Saturday, Aug. 11, at 12:20 p.m., two men, ages 29 and 34, took a bottle of Hennessy cognac from the drugstore's liquor aisle. When Young told them she was going to call the police, one of the men grabbed another bottle from the shelf, called Young a "bitch," and threatened to kill her. The men then left the store carrying three bottles of expensive cognac—Hennessy, Martells, and Courvoisier—setting off the merchandise alarm.

The suspects then crossed Castro Street and went inside Graystone Wine and Liquor, where they tried to sell the stolen cognac to store owner Gary Speer. When Speer declined, they grabbed a Hennessy gift pack from Graystone's shelves and fled the store.

Police caught up with the two men at a bus stop on 24th Street. After attempting to run away, both suspects were arrested and booked at Mission Station.

The next day, at about 1:30 p.m., Young was standing in Rite Aid's liquor aisle when she saw a man, around 25 years old, steal a bottle of tequila. She tried to stop him before he passed the checkout station, but he hurried by with the bottle in his hand. He then pulled his shirt back and showed Young a blade on his belt, before fleeing the store. A customer saw the suspect get into a white car with a female driver and copied down the license plate number. Police later checked the number but learned that the plate had no current registered owner. Police also searched the area for the suspect, but could not find him.

That same week, three shoplifters, each attempting to steal bottles of alcohol, were arrested in three separate incidents at Bell Market on 24th Street. The suspects, ranging in age from 27 to 49, were all males, and two had prior convictions for petty theft.

Bell's corporate office in Southern California would not allow store em-

ployees to talk to the *Voice* about the incidents. But in one case, according to police reports, the shoplifter punched the store manager in the head as the manager was attempting to detain him.

Although liquor is known to be a popular item among shoplifters, Noe Valley Beat Officer Lorraine Lombardo admits that a series of "incidents happening back-to-back like this, at Rite Aid and Bell, is very unusual. But," she adds, "there are many, many people out there with alcohol problems, and they'll do anything for a drink."

After the rash of liquor thefts in August, Lombardo apprised liquor stores in the neighborhood of the crimes and advised them to be cautious about where in the store they place popular items.

Drew Spaulding, manager of PlumpJack Wines on 24th near Sanchez, tells the *Voice* that his store has not experienced an increase in shoplifting. How-

ever, PlumpJack takes several precautions to ward off shoplifters, he says. For instance, the store has a buzzer to let employees know when someone is entering the store. Spaulding also tries to put inexpensive (and therefore less desirable) items near the front of the store. He keeps expensive items, such as cognac, behind the counter in a locked case.

Lombardo says PlumpJack's precautions are good ones, and speculates that liquor thieves may have targeted Rite Aid because the aisle where the liquor is kept is fairly close to the main entrance.

Still, Rite Aid's Young says that for the sake of customers, the store does not plan to change the location of its merchandise.

"We want items to be easily locatable for our customers," she says. "We don't want to have items under lock and key. We don't want to give people the impression that we don't want to sell to them or to make it difficult for them to get to the

items they want to buy."

When Young spoke with the *Voice* in mid-September, she said things have "quieted down" in recent weeks. Still, she noted that cosmetics, candy, school supplies, vitamins, and over-the-counter medications continue to be popular merchandise among thieves.

She also said she feels calmer working in her store on days when Officer Lombardo is on duty and able to take a walk around the store and check in with her. But, she added, she won't feel secure until there is a stronger police presence in the neighborhood.

"This is a really nice neighborhood," she said. "I just wish there were more police around. I think that would help a lot. I want to do my best to help my customers and to put on a happy face. I don't want customers to be scared, but I don't want to have to act like a security guard in my store either." □

Merchants Take Aim at Shoplifting

In mid-September, in response to a series of thefts at Rite Aid and Bell (see accompanying story), the *Voice* checked in with several other merchants about shoplifting problems in the neighborhood. Most said that shoplifters had been quite active this summer, but that the start of school had ushered in a short lull. Still, many merchants were beginning to implement improved security measures as they geared up for the biggest shoplifting season of the year—Christmas.

Kari Bootner, manager of See Jane Run on 24th near Vicksburg, said she has noticed "inventory shrinkage across the board" this year, so her fitness clothing store has started to take more precautions against shoplifting.

"We're doing retraining of our employees," she said, "to make them aware of how easy it is for people to shoplift. For instance, we now make sure that people do not go into the dressing room carrying large bags." Product displays have been rearranged as well.

After two weeks of heavy theft at Rabat in early summer, employees of the clothing store at 24th and Noe also have tightened security in preparation for the holiday shopping season. "One day in June, we found seven sensors that had been removed from clothing items and left in a dressing room," said employee Christine Sanchez. Not long after, Sanchez said, employees found a handful of sensors in the pocket of a clothing item on the store's merchandise rack.

Since then, Rabat workers "have had a much more watchful eye," said Sanchez. "We always make sure someone is at the cash register. We also help people one-on-one when they need a fitting room. Sometimes before, if it was very busy, we would just point them in the direction of the dressing room. Not anymore."

Colleen O'Brien, manager of Ambiance, another 24th Street clothing store, said she and the employees and managers of Rabat and the Designers Club make a point of alerting one another by phone or in person if their store has been the victim of a theft.

O'Brien previously worked at Ambiance's store on Haight Street, where shoplifting was much more prevalent, she said. "That helped me learn to be leery and watchful no matter what neighborhood I'm working in."

Still, the Noe Valley store is not immune, said O'Brien, pointing to a display of earrings on the store's counter. "We didn't used to have a sensor on this display until someone came in one day and stole the whole display."

O'Brien also reported that Ambiance has been visited more than once by a shoplifter who is well-known on 24th Street. She is a woman in her late 50s to early 60s, who could easily be taken for your grandmother. In mid-September, the woman shoplifted a padlock and several small chains from Ames Locksmith, located three doors down from Ambiance. She then went into Ambiance and left behind the plastic container for the lock.

Ames Manager Mark Prior witnessed the theft, but was reluctant to apprehend the older woman. "We saw her put the lock and the chains in her purse," said Prior. "But she was a gray-haired old lady, and it gave us a weird feeling to think about going after her, so we just let her leave. I mean, she's an old lady. What are you going to do?"

When Toko Arts opened in the neighborhood two years ago, "we didn't expect any problems with shoplifting," said Manager Chris Diehl, "but shoplifting is worse at this store than at our store in North Beach."

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

"Shoplifters in Noe Valley blend in really well," he said. "It's like 'Normal Land' here. It's people you wouldn't suspect. Women with strollers. Husbands with wives. On weekends especially, people will open one of our jewelry cases and take a ring or whatever they can grab, and run out of the store."

"We're shocked at how much has disappeared when we add everything up each month," said Diehl.

Frequently, unless a suspect is caught in the act, merchants do not report these thefts to police. "It's just not worth the police's time," said one merchant who asked not to be identified.

Still, Police Officer Lorraine Lombardo encourages merchants to report the incidents. To combat shoplifters, she also recommends that merchants not place highly desirable items near the front door and that they put the store's cash register in a central location, "so employees can see what's going on in the rest of the store."

Lombardo also reminds merchants that "four eyes are better than two. It's important that merchants pass the word on to others quickly if they've been the victim of shoplifters. It's also very important that merchants trust their gut feeling. If you think a person in the store looks suspicious, go with that gut feeling."

Although merchants and police can offer up a variety of reasons for why people shoplift, Noe Valley merchants and Officer Lombardo strongly believe that recent shoplifting incidents in the neighborhood are not a result of the looming recession.

"I really do believe there are just more thieves around," said Lombardo.

"People are not stealing out of need or because of the recession," agreed Toko's Diehl. "It's just the state of people today." □



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Photo by Jack Tipple

SHORT TAKES

NERT Needs You!

If you are like most people, you felt paralyzed following the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington. One way to regain control might be to attend a series of six disaster-preparedness classes taught by the San Francisco Fire Department. By doing so, you will become a member of NERT, the city's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team.

NERT was founded after the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, to enable average citizens to help out during the next big disaster. Fire officials give hands-on training in hazard mitigation, emergency first aid, search and rescue, and team organization and management. Noe Valley's NERT coordinator, Maxine Fasulis, is also on NERT's executive board.

"The NERT program has trained many volunteers in the basic skills necessary to help ourselves and our neighbors in a Level 3 citywide emergency," says Fasulis. "Until September 11, we all thought such an emergency would be an earthquake. Sadly, we now have to consider the possibility that such an emergency could take other forms. Now more than ever, all city residents, including those of us in Noe Valley, should take advantage of this wonderful training program, which is provided free."

The next training for Noe Valley, Glen Park, Mount Davidson, and Sunnyside residents will be held Oct. 11 through Nov. 15 at Glen Park Elementary School, 441 Lippard Avenue. Classes take place on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m., and usually last two to two-and-a-half hours. To register, call 558-3456 or visit the NERT web site, www.nertnews.com.

Mission Celebrates 225th

La Mission San Francisco de Asis in the Village of Chutchui, popularly known as Mission Dolores, is holding its 50th annual Mission Dolores Fiesta Oct. 5 through 7. All proceeds will benefit the school and parish, located on 16th Street between Church and Dolores streets.

"We're really happy to invite everybody from far and wide to take part in a great event," says Mission pastoral associate Sheral Marshall. "It's the 225th anniversary of the founding of Mission Dolores, and so we expect to have an especially good time."

The good time consists of three days of live entertainment, including carnival games and rides, international food booths, a mariachi band, and performances by the Overcommitments, a group of architects who sing and play Irish music (Saturday afternoon, Oct. 6). The festival will also include a family spaghetti dinner (Friday, 6 p.m.), a dinner dance (Saturday, 7:30 p.m.), and a special mariachi mass at the church's noon eucharist on Sunday, Oct. 7.

A raffle drawing on Sunday at 4 p.m. will feature such prizes as a TiVo recorder, a Play Station II video game player, dinner at Tommy Toy's, and trips for two to Hawaii and Reno. "Raffle tickets are \$2," says Marshall, "and we'll have a disk jockey at the dinner dance. It's \$15 per person, and that's the only thing you pay for in advance."

For general information and tickets, call 621-8203.

Jenkins Premieres New Work

The esteemed Margaret Jenkins Dance Company will begin its 28th season with the world premiere of Jenkins' newest work, "May I Now (18 Questions in the Space of an Answer)." Performances will be held Friday, Oct. 19, through Saturday, Oct. 27, at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida Street at 17th Street.

"'May I Now' is a work for those drawn to the pleasures of pure movement executed by superb modern dancers," says Jenkins, the company's founder and artistic director. She adds that the piece is staged in nine episodes of varying length, and breaks away from the traditional proscenium format by putting audiences on opposite sides of the set.

Both Jenkins and her artistic collaborator in "May I Now," poet Michael Palmer, have lived in Noe Valley since the 1970s. Jenkins is also an artistic consultant to U.C. Extension, which has refurbished a gymnasium for use by the local dance community.

Jenkins says some of the questions she explores in her latest work are about



Many philosophical questions will be explored in "May I Now?", a new work by the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company. *Photo by Ken Probst*

communication. "What is that silent conversation in the space between bodies—that elaborate, sometimes comic sequence of yes and no, maybe, never, of course, forget it, and someday? Who's speaking, who's listening, and what's the language?" her piece tries to ask.

Tickets for opening night are \$35 and include a post-performance reception. Otherwise, tickets are \$20 and \$25 and can be purchased through Theater Artaud at 621-7797, or at www.ticketweb.com. All shows start at 8 p.m.

A Peek Inside Local Victorians

On Sunday, Oct. 21, from 1 to 5 p.m., the Victorian Alliance of San Francisco will present its annual house tour of 19th-century Italianate, Stick, and Queen Anne homes in the Liberty-Hill Historic District. Dubbed San Francisco's "first suburb" by history buffs, Liberty-Hill stretches roughly from 20th to 22nd streets and from Fair Oaks to Lexington.

"One thing that people enjoy about the tour is being able to see how a Victorian can be adapted to contemporary life," says Donald Beilke, an Alliance member since 1975. "You have the best of both worlds. You have the antique and history, but you can't live in a museum. So you also have the contemporary life, and it's a wonderful blend."

The tour begins at Guerrero and Liberty streets. It is self-paced, and features

Continued on Next Page

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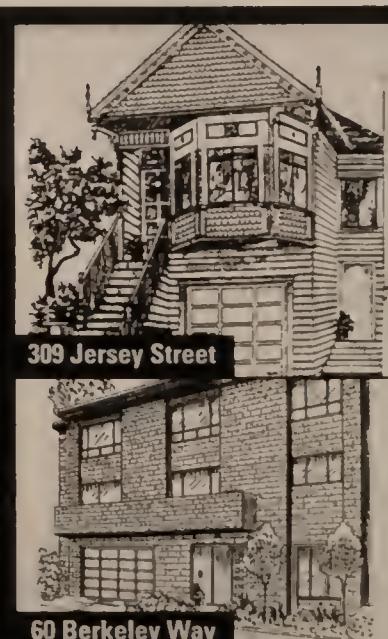
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SHORT TAKES

Continued from Previous Page

homes in a compact area with easy slopes and relatively few stairs to climb. One stop on the tour is the McMullen Mansion, a landmark home on Guerrero Street. Another is the boyhood home of "Sunny" Jim Rolph, a former San Francisco mayor and California governor. Restoration artisans will be on hand to offer advice. Also included will be light refreshments, door prizes, and a Victorian-themed boutique.

Advance tickets are \$20; \$15 for seniors and students. The day of the tour they are \$25 and \$20.

The tour is a major fundraiser to help the Alliance preserve architecturally significant buildings in San Francisco. Send checks to the Victorian Alliance, 4272 25th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. For more information, call 826-1437 or visit www.victorianalliance.org.

A Swingin' Castro Street Fair

Entertainment galore has been lined up for the 28th annual Castro Street Fair on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Over 250,000 people are expected to enjoy a variety of entertainers on six stages, including those devoted to Latin, techno, country, and swing dance. Headliners include the men's bands Pansy Division and Sparrow's Point, the women's band Wild Mango, and the Bonnie Hayes Band. There will also be about 200 booths showcasing fine arts and crafts.

While the fair promises to be lots of fun, it also hopes to raise lots of money. In the last four years, the fair has donated more than \$200,000 to AIDS groups, local schools, and neighborhood improvement projects such as the Pink Triangle Memorial. (The Pink Triangle houses a rose garden at the intersection of Castro, Market, and upper 17th Street, and was created to honor the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender victims of Hitler's concentration camps.)

"We have 22 beneficiaries this year, and a beer booth that is also run by nonprofits," says Steve Gaynes, a fair organizer. "That's why we're asking for a \$2 donation. One hundred percent of the gate goes to donation groups, and you'll get a sticker that's good for \$1 off on every beverage you buy all day at the fair."

To his neighbors in Noe Valley, Gaynes says, "The Castro Street Fair is for the whole community. We're looking forward to seeing you."

For further details, check out www.castrostreetfair.org.

St. Paul's Dances for Retrofit

St. Paul's Church will hold its fourth annual "Retro" Dinner Dance and Silent Auction, starting at 6 p.m. on Oct. 20 at the United Irish Cultural Center on 45th Avenue, near Sloat Boulevard.

The event, St. Paul's largest fundraiser of the year, typically raises between \$30,000 and \$40,000, according to event coordinator Katy O'Shea. All funds go toward retiring the \$1.4 million debt that still remains from the \$3.4 million church retrofit project, completed last December.

Over the last month, O'Shea and parish members have been hard at work soliciting donations for the auction, which kicks off the Oct. 20 event. Solicitations have been sent out to Noe Valley, Glen Park, and Mission area merchants. "Merchants have been so generous and wonderful over the years," says O'Shea. "With the economy more shaky this year, we're just

hoping they'll be able to donate again."

So far, donations from parishioners include a week at a hideaway in Sonoma, trips to Las Vegas and Disneyland, and tickets to Giants and 49er games. Several restaurants have contributed gift certificates for dinners, and Mayor Willie Brown has donated one of his fedoras for the auction. O'Shea says the mayor also has promised to stop by the dance.

An always popular item at the annual auction is dinner for eight prepared by St. Paul's pastor Mario Farana and visiting priest Tony Mancuso and served at the church's Valley Street rectory.

Tickets to the Retro Dinner Dance, which includes a choice of prime rib, salmon, or vegetarian fare for dinner, cost \$60 per person.

"People can purchase tickets up until the date of the event," says O'Shea, "and donate items to the auction as well. Last year, we had people dropping off hand-crocheted baby blankets and Waterford holiday ornaments up until the last minute."

For more information, contact O'Shea at St. Paul's Rectory at 648-7538.

Duo Jazzes Up Chamber Music

Noe Valley Chamber Music's 2001-02 season begins Oct. 14, at 5 p.m., with a benefit concert featuring jazz masters Grant and Matheny—New York pianist Darrell Grant and Berkeley's Dmitri Matheny on flugelhorn. Following the concert will be a champagne reception and silent auction.

"We have an extremely exciting 10th season coming up, and our opening is chamber jazz, which we've never done before. There will also be a string quartet performing with Grant and Matheny, which is a nice mix of jazz and classical music," says Karen Heather, founder of the music series.

Grant and Matheny's repertoire ranges from jazz and classical to pop standards, gospel, and folk songs. The Oct. 14 concert will feature several new pieces, as well as music from their recent tour, including "Stardust" by Hoagy Carmichael, "African Flower" by Duke Ellington, and "Songs Without Word" by Felix Mendelssohn. The duo will be joined on stage by the Del Sol String Quartet for a performance of a suite of African-American spirituals.

Tickets to the opening concert are \$25, both in advance and at the door. Proceeds will be used to support the current season. Auction items include restaurant dinners, spa services, and vacation get-away packages. For tickets, call 333-9444.

The lineup for the rest of the Sunday-afternoon concert season includes "four-hands" piano by Betty Woo and Ursula Wang (Nov. 18), Christmas music from the Three Americas (Dec. 9), a tribute to Jelly D'Ananyi by violinist Terrie Baune and pianist Deborah Clasquin (Jan. 20), the piano quartet Chamber Ensemble of the Pacific (Feb. 10), Musica Pacifica Baroque Ensemble (March 17), Nagano-Reiss-Hersh Piano Trio (April 21), and the Cypress String Quartet (May 19).

Except for the opening, all concerts begin at 4 p.m., and tickets are \$12; \$8 for students and seniors. The concerts take place in the upstairs sanctuary at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street near 23rd. For more details, visit the website www.nvcm.org.

This month's Short Takes were written by Laura McHale Holland and Kathy Dalle-Molle.



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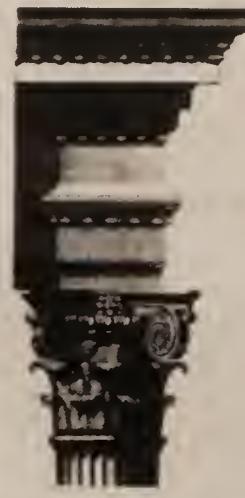
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Psychiatrist in Zimbabwe

What Paul Linde Learned From His African Patients

By Maire Farrington

Eight years ago, psychiatrist Paul Linde and his wife Laurie Schultz, a pediatrician, left their Noe Valley domicile and set off for an adventure overseas. After half a year of winding their way through Southeast Asia, the couple settled in Zimbabwe, where Laurie quickly found a pediatric position. Since job pickings were slim for an American psychiatrist, Linde hunkered down for a month and wrote "two really bad novels—but it was good practice," he jokes. "I got really antsy and I said this isn't going to satisfy me, so I started to look for a job as a psychiatrist."

As fate would have it, a nationwide doctors' strike created immediate demands for skilled physicians, and Linde soon found himself toiling amidst the chaos of the woefully understaffed psychiatric unit at Harare Central Hospital.

It never occurred to Linde that his professional undertakings would prove just as dramatic as any novel he could cook up. It wasn't until after his return to the states a year later that he decided to put literary form to his extraordinary experiences practicing psychiatry among Zimbabwe's Shona people. In his just released book, *Of Spirits and Madness: An American Psychiatrist in Africa*, Linde describes how working with the native residents of this rural agrarian culture challenged him to view the world of psychiatry and mental illness with new eyes.

Eleven chapters feature different cases, which "were memorable either from the standpoint that they were exotic psychiatrically or that they really affected me deeply," says Linde. Though his first intention was to write good, literary-quality stories, the author also set out to "give people an understanding of the Shona culture and teach people about what a psychiatrist does."

Linde's bent is toward creative nonfiction mixed with clinical presentation, and his narrative is punctuated with descriptive passages depicting a vivid sense of place. The result is a volume that reads like equal-parts memoir, travelogue, and edge-of-your-seat page-turner as Linde struggles to acclimate to a whole new set of cultural and professional demands. Often, his role resembles that of a detective



Paul Linde and Laurie Schultz, both doctors, have traveled and worked in Southeast Asia and Africa, but now they're glad to be homesteading on Elizabeth Street, raising their two sons, Jacob, 2, and Sam, 10 months.

Photo by Beverly Tharp

as, armed with only sparse information, he tries to puzzle out the causes for his patients' bizarre behaviors.

Linde's diagnostic work was complicated by the fact that many of his patients in Zimbabwe held a faith in ancestor spirits. "Most people, in any culture, who have a nervous breakdown want to believe that it's not a nervous breakdown, so they'll try to attribute it to something else," Linde says. "But in this case, they'd say, 'My ancestor spirits are putting a hex on me or bewitching me.'"

From a western perspective, "this sounds crazy and like a delusion in and of itself," Linde explains.

The psychiatric nurses who worked closely with Linde helped him "sort things out," he says. "The nurses said, 'Well, you know our people believe that as part of our culture, [bewitchment] is possible.' Pretty quickly I thought, I'm going to have to understand this better and take it seriously. It forced me to understand more about traditional healing in the Shona culture."

Before seeking psychiatric help, most Shona patients visit a traditional healer, or *n'anga*, Linde says. "The traditional healers would be able to say, 'Oh of course, your great aunt is bewitching

you.' And it would be easy for them to find it."

Typically, the *n'anga* would then perform a ritual to get rid of the bewitchment. Only those cases that defied the *n'anga*'s ministrations would be referred on for psychiatric consultation.

"That's why I saw so few, I think, of what a bewitchment really is," Linde says. "Because the people would first go to a traditional healer."

Though the vast majority of patients that Linde treated could be diagnosed as having a psychiatric illness, "about two percent" had syndromes that were less clear-cut. One such case involved a man who adamantly insisted that a witch had embedded numerous nails and needles in his shin. Though Linde came to believe this was a case of self-mutilation, there were still some unanswered questions. "I had no doubt he was jamming needles in his leg," Linde says. "But the thing I couldn't sort out was, Was there a witch that was somehow making him do stuff, like a voodoo? I doubt it, I highly doubt it, but I can't exclude it."

Linde's own religious and spiritual background provided little context for explaining the more unusual phenomena he witnessed. Describing himself as a "retired Catholic, with Christian beliefs," Linde moved from his native Minnesota to San Francisco in 1988. But he says, "in spite of the fact that I live here, I'm not really that mystical/spiritually inclined." Before traveling to Africa, Linde had an intellectual curiosity about alternative spiritual paths such as meditation and Buddhism, "but it's more of an interest in and not really practicing those things," he says.

Ultimately, says Linde, it was his travels in Indonesia, just before settling in Zimbabwe, that "primed the pump" for considering that the realm of spirits may indeed exert some influence on human behavior. Several times, Linde happened upon native peoples engaged in bizarre cultural rituals, sometimes involving self-flagellation and cutting. Some appeared to have lapsed into states of muscle rigidity and glassy-eyed stares, such as might be seen with catatonic patients.

During these rituals, "people would be in an altered state of mind, in a trance state," the author says. "They would come out of it in half an hour or an hour, which is different from psychiatric illness, where if you get hit with something where you're that out of touch with reality, you ain't coming back in an hour. The earliest you're

coming back is a few days, usually."

Asked if during his year in Zimbabwe he came to believe in the concept of bewitchment, Linde reflects for a moment before answering. "Yes, I did. I think it's a possibility in that culture. It is exceedingly rare, but it's possible. But I've seen the way that psychiatric patients behave, and 99.9 percent of the time it's like, 'Whoa, this is a really bad case of mania, or schizophrenia. But once in a while, very rarely, you'll see somebody who's in an altered state of mind that doesn't look like schizophrenia or manic-depressive illness.... I can't exclude the possibility that people can be possessed, because I know that throughout the world, including the United States, people get into true altered states of mind—trance states—usually for some sort of healing purpose or some sort of ritual. So I can't rule out that spirits can do that to us. I think it's very unusual, and very unlikely, but yes."

Writing from his home on Elizabeth Street, Linde is already researching his next book, "about working in wild and crazy psychiatric environments."

He is currently employed half-time in the psychiatric emergency unit at San Francisco General Hospital, and has practiced psychiatry in jails, hospital wards, and intensive-care units. But his starring role is as father to two small sons, Jacob, 2, and Sam, 10 months old.

Says Linde, "My goal in the long run is I would love to be able to walk my kids to grade school, write and work, and then go pick them up and play with them after school. To me that would be perfect." □

You can meet Linde at Cover to Cover Books on Saturday, Oct. 6, at 6 p.m., where African music, socializing, and refreshments will round out the evening of reading and book signing. You can also catch him at Black Oak Books in Berkeley on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Excerpt from Paul Linde's *Of Spirits and Madness*

I couldn't have imagined a more surreal landscape than if I had landed on Mars. Visualize a misplaced Bedlam: a dusty courtyard in Africa, its perimeter marked by a chain-link fence topped with barbed wire; its psychotic denizens milling about in institutional garb; the scene set under a canopy of blue sky and the muscular arms of a baobab tree standing guard over Dante's inferno. That was my workplace in Zimbabwe, the hospital where I worked as a psychiatrist for a year. It was a place that I got to know well, where I met a memorable manic, Tichaona Machewa, a few weeks into the job.

Approaching the gate that day, I was still taken aback by the chaos. Over-medicated and under-medicated patients wearing ill-fitting hospital pajamas and brightly striped bathrobes—some jabbering and zipping around, a few flapping and squawking, others motionless and voiceless, still others appearing completely normal—milled around the hospital's yard of patchy grass and dirt, which fronted a low-slung brick building....

...While the courtyard gave fresh air and sunshine, it stole privacy. Passersby, walking on a well-worn path that skirted the P.U.'s [psychiatric unit's] perimeter, stopped to gawk and laugh at my patients. A sign at the corner of the fence warned the public not to feed the patients, only adding to the zoolike atmosphere. If those passersby only knew—there but for the grace of spirits go they.

Printed with author's permission from *Of Spirits and Madness: An American Psychiatrist in Africa*, by Paul Linde (McGraw-Hill 2001).



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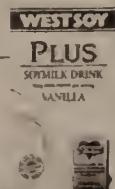


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RE: DPT Order No. 2223

I oppose putting parking meters on 24th Street
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Address: _____

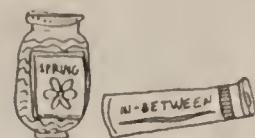
Signature: _____

City Traffic Engineer
Traffic Engineering Division
25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 345
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: DPT Order No. 2223



OCTOBER 2001



SEPT. 28 & 29: Element DANCE THEATER performs *Solitude*, featuring "full-scale cultural meltdowns and seven-foot-tall furies." 8 pm. Dance Mission, 3316 24th St. 273-4633.

SEPT. 29: Tom Finnegan of Life's Work Center leads a discussion, "Sectors of Employment: Where Is Your LIFE'S WORK?" 10:30 am–noon Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 282-7976.

SEPT. 29: Jason Dewees gives a workshop on PALM TREES suitable for the Bay Area, at Potrero Gardens nursery 11 am. 1201 17th St. 861-8220.

SEPT. 30: Cooking demonstrations of healthful food highlight "Taste for the Cure," a benefit for UCSF Medical Center's BREAST CANCER patients and research. 2–6 pm. San Francisco City Hall. 353-7201.

OCT. 2: John Diefenbacher-Krall discusses the proposed UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE in the state of Maine. 7 pm. 626 Pacheco St. 695-7891.

OCT. 2, 9, 16 & 30: Preschool STORY TIME, a read-aloud program for children ages 3 to 5, begins at 10 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

OCT. 2–31: Empty Hands Martial Arts Studio offers classes for kids ages 6 to 14. Tuesdays, 4:30–5:30 pm, Wednesdays, 5–6 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 824-6063.

OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31: The LAP-SITS at the Noe Valley Library feature songs, stories, and finger play for infants, toddlers, and their parents. Wednesdays at 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

OCT. 3–31: A FELDENKRAIS movement class, led by Leigh Sealy and Barbara Wright, meets Wednesdays from 8 to 9 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 759-5934 or 337-6276.

OCT. 5: KATHLEEN GEORGE signs her new Pittsburgh-based mystery, *Taken*. 7 pm. Cover to Cover Booksellers, 3812 24th St. 282-8080.

OCT. 5: The Harmida Piano Trio performs a CONCERT FOR PEACE, featuring works by Schubert, Smetana, and Lou Harrison. 7:30 pm. Holy Innocents Church, 455 Fair Oaks St. 824-5142.



Painter Mark Campbell (right), artist-in-residence at Laguna Honda Hospital, will open his studio at 101 Hoffman during Open Studios weekend Oct. 6–7.

OCT. 5–7: The 50th annual MISSION DOLORES FIESTA includes carnival games, live music, and international food. Oct. 5, 6–10 pm; Oct. 6, 10 am–6 pm; Oct. 7, 11 am–4 pm. 3321 16th St. 621-8203.

OCT. 6: The annual FLEA MARKET and rummage sale at the Noe Valley Ministry features clothes and furniture at bargain prices, plus lunch and baked goods. 10 am–4 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

OCT. 6: Fairmount School's fourth annual CAR WASH and bake sale will apply profits towards field trips, classroom supplies, and fifth-grade graduation. 10 am–4 pm. 65 Chenery St. 695-5669

OCT. 6: Ride a horse-drawn wagon down 24th Street at the annual HAYRIDE and sidewalk sale sponsored by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association. 11 am–3 pm. For information, contact chairperson Michael Glazer at 642-6569

OCT. 6: Noe Valley author PAUL LINDE recounts his time as a psychiatrist in Zimbabwe in *Of Spirits and Madness*. 6 pm. Cover to Cover, 3812 24th St. 282-8080.

OCT. 6 & 7: OPEN STUDIOS showcases the artists of Noe Valley, Mission, Glen Park, Bernal Heights, and Eureka Valley. 11 am–6 pm. 646-0959.

OCT. 7: Natural Resources offers a one-day intensive CHILDBIRTH PREPARATION class. 9:30 am–5:30 pm. 1307 Castro St. 550-2611.

OCT. 7: The CASTRO STREET FAIR promises art, food, dance demonstrations, and music from Pansy Division, Sparrow's Point, Wild Mango, and the Bonnie Hayes Band. 11 am–6 pm. 841-1824

OCT. 7: The annual BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS at Bethany United Methodist Church begins at 11 am. 1268 Sanchez St. 647-8393.

OCT. 7–28: Open Door Yoga offers an Introduction to HATHA YOGA class, Sundays, from 4:30 to 6 pm. 1500 Castro St. 824-5657



"Aftermath" by Rita Nachmann will be among the many works exhibited in an Elder Arts show Oct. 16 through Nov. 4 at Crucible Steel Gallery—Cellspace.

OCT. 10: The League of Women Voters sponsors a City Attorney CANDIDATES FORUM, with Neil Eisenberg, Dennis Herrera, Jim Lazarus, and Steve Williams. 6–7:30 pm. Main Library, 100 Larkin St. 557-4560.

OCT. 11–NOV. 8: The Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) offers a series of six DISASTER TRAINING classes. Thursdays, 6:30 pm. Call 558-3459 for location and enrollment.

OCT. 13: The Parker House Guest House's fourth annual LUNCHEON benefits the S.F. AIDS and Breast Cancer Emergency Funds. 1–5 pm. 520 Church St. 621-3222.

OCT. 13: Electro-acoustic Savant Guard and sound sculpturists Den of the Sonic Illbience perform at a live MUSIC BENEFIT for the Golden Gate Center for the Homeless. 7 pm.

OCT. 13: JAZZ VOCALIST/pianist Patricia Barber performs with her trio. 7:30 and 9:30 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

OCT. 13: ART AND SOLE auctions off over 50 pairs of shoes decorated by local artists, in a benefit for PAWS, LYRIC, Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinners, and the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights. 8–12 pm. 672 South Van Ness. 861-1760

OCT. 13 & 14: Members of the Bay Area LEGO Users Group show their work, and promise to build something really big. Noon–5 pm. Zeum, 221 4th St. 777-2800.

OCT. 14: The story of Mary Ellen Pleasant and a visit to the Poole-Bell Mansion are highlights of a City Guides WALKING TOUR of the Fairmount neighborhood. Meet at 10 am at the Glen Park Library, 653 Chenery St. 557-4266.

OCT. 14: Sharon Art Studio's OPEN HOUSE features a sale and silent auction. 11 am–5 pm. Golden Gate Park, 753-7005.

OCT. 14: Local author Peter Lilenthal discusses the ancient craft of BOOK-MAKING at 1 pm. Cover to Cover, 3812 24th St. 282-8080.

OCT. 14: Marcy Adelman of Rainbow Community Housing, which finds homes for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered seniors, speaks at the PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP meeting. 2–4 pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. 921-8850.

OCT. 14: The INA CHALIS OPERA Ensemble performs a 35th-anniversary concert and fundraiser. 4 pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

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CALENDAR



OCT. 14: Pianist Darrell Grant joins flugelhornist Dmitri Matheny at a champagne benefit CHAMBER JAZZ concert, to begin the Noe Valley Chamber Music 2001-02 season. 5 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 333-9444.

OCT. 15: An INFANT CARE class at Natural Resources will be held from 10 am to 1 pm. 1307 Castro St. 550-2611.

OCT. 16: Learn how to present a case in SMALL CLAIMS COURT at a workshop sponsored by New College of California's School of Law. 6 pm. 50 Fell St. 241-1300.

OCT. 16: LAUGHING MEDITATION includes Hatha Yoga poses, extended conscious laughter, and a silent meditation. 6-7:30 pm. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

OCT. 16-NOV. 4: San Francisco State University artists in the ELDER ARTS Celebration program exhibit their work at the Crucible Steel Gallery. Reception Oct. 21, 3-5 pm. Cell Space, 2050 Bryant St. 441-2649.

OCT. 17: Wendelin Van Draanen, author of the Sammy Keyes MYSTERIES, signs her latest, *Flipped*. 11 am. Cover to Cover, 3812 24th St. 282-8080.

OCT. 19 & 20: Mexican singer Astrid Haddad performs "Latin Kitsch PERFORMANCE ART." 8 pm. Brava Theater Center, 2789 24th St. 392-4400.

OCT. 19-27: MARGARET JENKINS Dance Company premieres "May I Now (18 Questions in the Space of an Answer)." Thurs.-Sat., 8 pm. Theather Artaud, 450 Florida St. 621-7797.

OCT. 20: "Traditions and Transitions," a City Guides WALKING TOUR of Noe Valley, begins at 10 am on the corner of Noe and 25th St. 557-4266.

OCT. 20: On Lok Senior Health offers a free workshop on avoiding MEDICATION INTERACTIONS. 10-11:30 am. 4430 Mission St. Register at 292-8715.

OCT. 20: Beach Blanket Babylon is holding AUDITIONS for male and female singers; bring music for both an uptempo song and a ballad, and your résumé and photo. Noon. Club Fugazi, 678 Green St. For info, fax 421-0518, or e-mail bbb@beachblanketbabylon.com.

OCT. 20: A group discussion led by MARIAN BRANCH, "Friendship Among Women," is featured at the monthly meeting of the Older Women's League (OWL). 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Call 989-4422 for location.

OCT. 20: ST. PAUL'S CHURCH sponsors a Retro Dinner Dance and Auction, to benefit its earthquake retrofitting projects. 6 pm. Irish Cultural Center, 45th Ave. and Sloat Blvd. 648-7538.

OCT. 20: New York's TIN HAT TRIO performs a concert at 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

OCT. 21: Noe Valley resident CAROL HUGHES signs *Toots Underground*, the sequel to her first novel, *Toots and the Upside-down House*. 1 pm. Cover to Cover, 3812 24th St. 282-8080.

OCT. 21: A HOUSE TOUR sponsored by the San Francisco Victorian Alliance will show off interior restoration in architecturally significant homes in the Liberty-Hill Historic District. 1-5 pm. Tour begins at Guerrero and Liberty streets. 826-1437.

OCT. 22 & 29: TAX RELIEF SEMINARS at Edward Jones Investments point out changes in the law. 6:30-8 pm. 816 Diamond St. Call 282-4079 for a reservation.

OCT. 23: FILMS for preschoolers 3 to 5 will be shown at 10 and 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095



Jazz vocalist Patricia Barber performs an intimate concert with her trio at the Noe Valley Ministry on Oct. 13.

OCT. 23: Body Shop founder ANITA RODDICK gives a slide talk about corporate globalization and the impact of the WTO. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246

OCT. 24: St. Luke's Hospital Auxiliary celebrates its 50th anniversary with a "Golden Musee" fashion show, silent auction, and luncheon. 10:30 am. Sheraton Palace Hotel Grand Ballroom, Market and New Montgomery. 641-6538.

OCT. 25: The UPPER NOE NEIGHBORS' monthly meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez. 285-0473.

OCT. 25: On Lok's 30th Street Senior Services hosts their annual AUTUMN DINNER AND DANCE, featuring Dr Loco's Rockin' Jalapeño Band. 5:30 pm. La Union Enpañola's Picasso Room, 2850 Alemany Blvd. 292-8732

OCT. 25: The San Francisco 2001 Homeless Count needs VOLUNTEERS to help with the count. For information, call the Mayor's Office on Homelessness, 252-3136.

OCT. 27: STORMY HALLOWEEN at the Randall Museum features lightning and thunder, and "creepy crafts and ghoulish games," for kids 2 through 12 and their families. 11 am-3 pm. 199 Museum Way 554-9600

OCT. 27: BOO AT THE ZOO features a Spooky Safari and trick-or-treat stations for kids, and pumpkin presents for selected animals. 10 am-3 pm. San Francisco Zoo, 1 Zoo Rd. 753-7080

OCT. 27: The HALLOWEEN and Day of the Dead celebration for children of all ages at Strybing Arboretum features pumpkin and gourd decorating, mask making, and lessons in creating leaf skeleton pictures and marigold mini-altars. 11 am-3 pm. Golden Gate Park 661-1316, ext. 300.

OCT. 27: The San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners, SLUG, hosts "Fruit from the Fog," a WORKSHOP specific to growing in the cool local climate. 10 am-noon. St. Mary's Urban Youth Farm Alemany Blvd. at Ellsworth St. 285-7584

OCT. 27: Michoacán MASK MAKER Felipe de Jesus Horta demonstrates his craft at the Mission Library. Noon. 300 Bartlett St. 695-5090

Gobble, Gobble...

Let's talk turkey. The next *Voice* is the November issue, appearing on Noe newstands by Nov. 1. If you want your event included in the November calendar, please send us the info before **OCT. 15**. The address is *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. You can send an e-mail, zabarska@aol.com (for Cal items) or jaxvoice@aol.com (for story ideas or letters to the editor). Happy Thanksgiving!

OCT. 27: JUDY SERRA reads from her new collection of poems, *Monster Goose*, at Cover to Cover's Halloween Spooktacular. 6 pm. 3812 24th St. 282-8080

OCT. 27: Harmonic Choir founder David Hykes performs a CONCERT of world vocal music, including Tuvan throat singing. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238

OCT. 31: Upper Noe Recreation Center celebrates HALLOWEEN starting at 10:30 am (ages 1-3) with a "Jumpy House," costume fashion show, and potluck dinner. Kids 3-12 can join the parade from 3:30 to 6 pm. Day & Sanchez. 695-5011

OCT. 31: Neighborhood ghosts invite all who dare to visit "Hoffman The HAUNTED STREET" on Hoffman Avenue from 22nd to 25th. Don't forget to stop by the firehouse at 100 Hoffman between 5 and 8 pm. 282-4562

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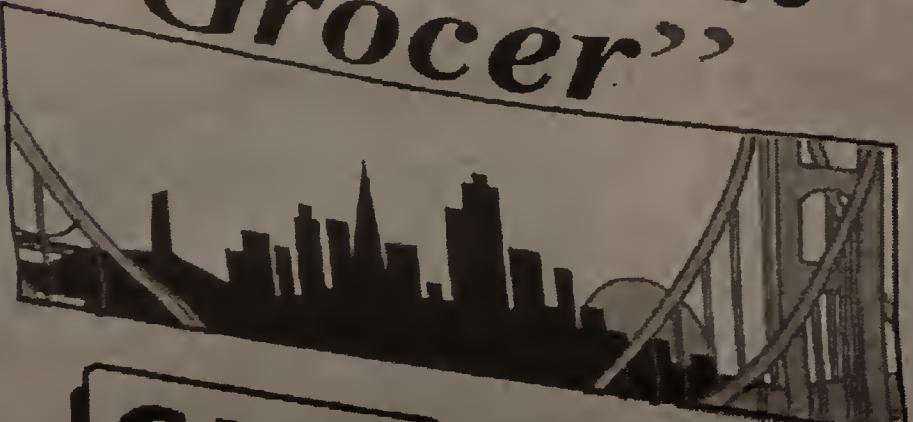


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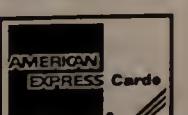


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Report Card From Our Roving Readers

Supporting and demonstrating world literacy, this month's team of Noe Valley neighbors travels far and spreads their tabloids wide.

At right, Barry Zeve and Larry Wisch view their Voice while on a non-theme-park bridge in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Kendall Welch (below) prefers the sand of Mauna Lani on the big island of Hawaii, if not the residents reading silently over her shoulder.



Ruthanne McCunn came back from Idaho's River of No Return, where she'd pondered the history of the Noe Valley Voice in front of pioneer Polly Bemis' cabin museum. Photo by Don McCunn



Above, Ann Carey and Pam Peirce paused at 17,000 feet on their Tibetan plateau trek to the Himalayas to see if anything was up back home.

At right, Kathy Pacer and Phil Gravitt could only get as high as 11,000 feet in Snowbird, Utah. But at least they had a copy of the Voice to read while on the tram ride down.



Five-year-old Miles Atkins didn't get the point of the September issue's Zippy cartoon. But he had a good time on the wharf at Nantucket, Mass., anyway.

if I only had
more energy...

lift

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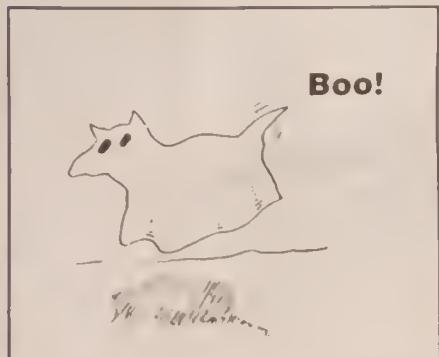
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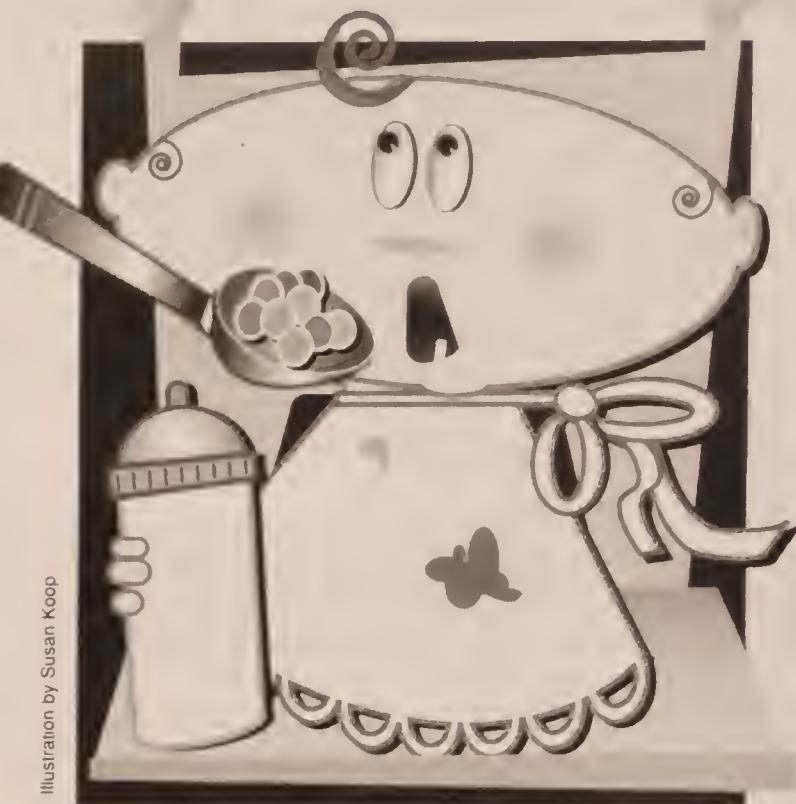


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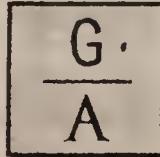
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Illustrated Reminiscences
by Florence Holub

My Life at the Voice

As the deadline for my October column drew near, I began to panic. I feared I was developing writer's block, because for more than three weeks, not a single idea for a column bubbled up in my brain.

Small wonder, for my gray matter had been churning out bits and pieces, fragments of my life, for almost 20 years. Had it now run out of energy, or was my brain just taking an unauthorized vacation? Only time will answer that question!

Until I reached my 60s—I'm 82 now—I had no thought of becoming a writer. In fact, I'd devoted almost all of my energies to becoming an artist. My association with the *Noe Valley Voice* began in 1983, when I met co-publisher Jack Tipple at the *Voice* booth at the Noe Valley Street Fair. I asked Jack if he would be interested in my illustrations. He encouraged me to send them in, which I did.

Over the next several years, I submitted one or two sketches a month, mainly of Victorian houses in the neighborhood. And I was pleased that Jack and co-publisher Sally Smith decided to print many of them. But occasionally they chose not to use a drawing, because there was not enough space or it was not related to anything in the issue.

I was slightly disappointed, so I decided to submit a few words to accompany my illustrations—as insurance. First, I drew and wrote

about the squawking parakeets that came to feed on the fruit trees in our yard on 21st Street. Next, I described the nocturnal visitations of raccoons. A pair of doves that built a nest on a branch near our back window and reared their young in plain view inspired another short essay. It was then that I realized that I enjoyed the whole undertaking immensely!

In the fall of 1988, as children readied themselves for school, I recalled my own first day at school at Edison Primary School, then located at Church and 22nd streets (see box).

The editors at the *Voice* were especially interested in this early Noe Valley experience, and asked if I had any more of them. Of course I did, so I happily began churning them out. In the beginning of 1989, they gave me my own column head, titled "Florence's Family Album," which has appeared monthly for the past 12 years.

This writing and reminiscing has been a most stimulating and pleasurable pursuit, but it is now becoming rather difficult. One reason is that our social life has sped up considerably, while at the same time our physical condition has slowed down substantially, which makes me wonder how I can keep up.

Most importantly, I want these remaining years with my man Leo to be as tranquil, pleasant, and relaxing as possible. So, if our busy social calendar or my balky brain should prevent my regular column from going to press, I hope and trust that the editors will allow an occasional recycling of some of my vintage columns, at least until I reach my 20th year with the *Noe Valley Voice*. Thank you, dear reader, for your understanding. □

Editor's Note: If you have a favorite column by Florence Holub, we'd love to hear from you. Write the Noe Valley Voice at 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, or e-mail jaxvoice@aol.com.



Starting School, 1926

In a recent issue of the *Voice*, a photograph of the old Edison Elementary School at 22nd and Church streets brought back a fragment of my almost forgotten childhood: my first day at school. My family had just moved into the lower flat of a building that still stands next to the piles of

broken brick and concrete created to make way for the new Edison School. I remember the groaning sound of the 11-line streetcar as it turned the corner at 22nd Street, and the rapid clanging sound as it picked up speed in front of our house and headed for 24th.

We had recently moved from the flat, quiet, sparsely populated farmland of northern Idaho to San Francisco—an exciting place, so richly peopled, so magical in comparison to our rural farm. Soon after we arrived, my father took us for a thrilling fast ride in our Model T Ford, up and over the Dolores Street hills. With each high, we three children in the back seat would fly up to the roof of the car and down again, squealing with the same joy we would later experience at the Chutes at Playland-at-the-Beach.

There were so many things for unworldly 6-year-olds to remember: "Look up and down the street before you cross," "Don't take candy from strangers" (even then), and especially "Come straight home." But the walk to and from school was full of distractions! Strange and beautiful flowers bloomed everywhere—lush red geraniums that could only be grown in pots in wintry Idaho, a certain shrub with leaves that smelled like lemon when you crushed them, and a large bush of white, heavily scented, bugle-like flowers that can still be seen around Noe Valley.

I remember the long walk up the steep 22nd Street sidewalk steps that led to the sunny, expansive schoolyard, and the lower-level, first-grade room filled with unfamiliar, wide-eyed, and frightened 6-year-olds like myself. Although I have forgotten her name, I shall never forget my teacher's warm and friendly manner, and her encouragement to all of us. She taught the class to stand up, put our hands over our hearts, and solemnly repeat after her: "I pledge Elly Janz...." I thought my teacher knew just about everything. She even knew my friend Elly Janz back on a farm in Idaho.

Many years later, my son, who is now grown, attended the new Edison School on Chattanooga Street, where we as parents were able to observe and be grateful for those gentle and caring souls who decided to become primary school teachers.

—Florence Holub, *Noe Valley Voice*, October 1988



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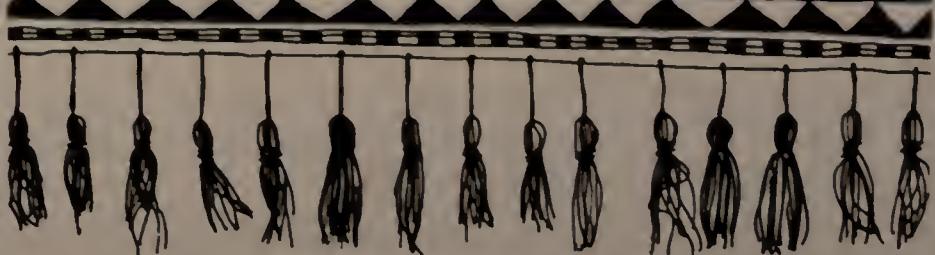


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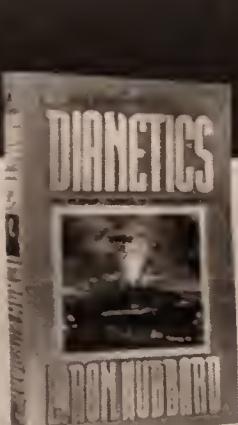
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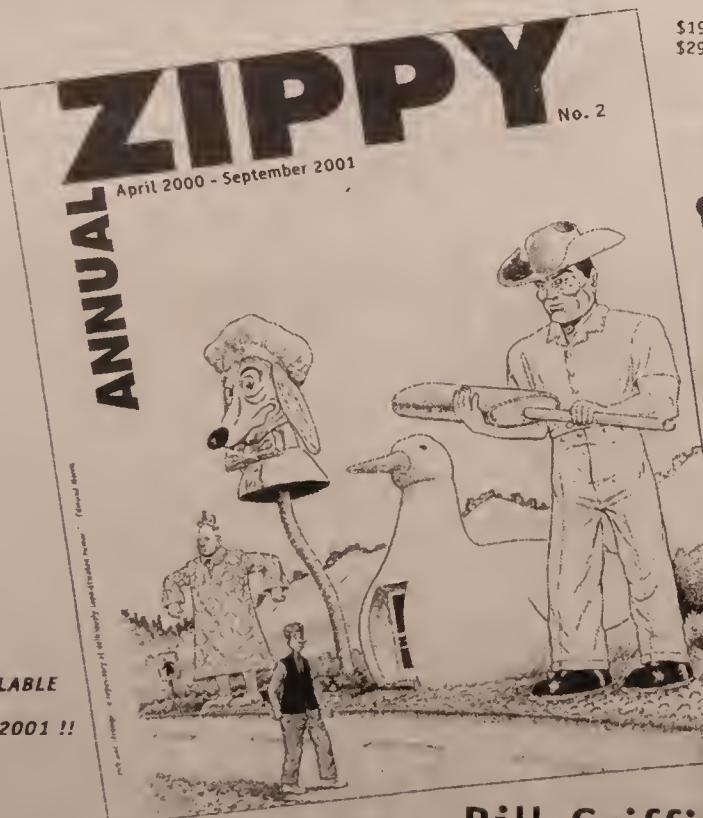
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BOOKS in our BRANCH

This month's new books list, provided by librarians Roberta Greifer, Carol Small, and Joseph Liebman, features a biography of Lady Caroline Blackwell, recipes from Ruth Reichl, and poetry about a person who turned into a carrot. To check out a book's availability, call 695-5095, or visit the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library at 451 Jersey Street, just off Castro Street. In addition to books, the branch offers magazines, CDs, videos, an outside deck, Internet access, and the archives and index to the *Noe Valley Voice*. Hours are Tuesdays, 10 to 9; Wednesdays, 1 to 9; Thursdays, 10 to 6; Fridays, 1 to 6; and Saturdays, 10 to 6.

Adult Fiction

◆ Simon Brett sets the tone for *Death on the Downs* in his description of "a village that hadn't changed since Agatha Christie set a murder there." The mystery begins when Carole Seddon, amateur sleuth, discovers a bag of bones (human) in an abandoned barn. It ends à la Christie, brimming with tea, fog, and nostalgia.

◆ "Sometimes one must accept what has happened without understanding it," says a Japanese proverb. In *American Fuji*, author Sara Backer explores this philosophy—and the cultural clash between East and West—with a protagonist who works for a funeral company called *Gone With The Wind*.

◆ Rural Arizona is the "paradise" in J. A. Jance's *Paradise Lost*, and the territory where Sheriff Joanna Brady tracks down a suspect who has targeted her daughter.

Adult Nonfiction

◆ *Dangerous Muse*, Nancy Schoenberger's biography of Lady Caroline Blackwell, depicts her as the inspiration and ultimate frustration, "both muse and anti-muse," to her three creative husbands: painter Lucien Freud, composer Israel Citkowitz, and poet Robert Lowell.

◆ In *The Piano Shop on the Left Bank*, Thad Carhart discovers a piano repair shop in Paris that inspires his reflections on the history and charms of the instrument.

◆ *New York Times* food critic Ruth Reichl shares recipes and tells about her encounters with delicacies from around the world, in *Comfort Me with Apples*.

Annotations by Joseph Liebman
Librarian, Noe Valley Branch



WHAT'S UP AT THE LIBRARY

Unless otherwise noted, events are at the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St. • 695-5095

Preschool Story Time

◆ Children ages 3 to 5 can hear short and tall tales at the library's *preschool story time*, at 10 a.m., Tuesdays, Oct. 2, 9, 16, and 30.

Movie Tuesday

◆ Preschoolers 3 to 5 are invited to watch films at 10 and 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Children's Fiction

◆ Young children will receive a lesson about bedtime routines, but in a gentle and humorous way, from *How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?* by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Mark Teague. Ages 3 to 5.

◆ Mary Azarian expresses her love of gardening in *A Gardener's Alphabet*, which she has illustrated with woodcuts hand-tinted with watercolors. Ages 3 to 6.

◆ A young boy, discouraged about his small size but wanting to play basketball, gets just the right advice and encouragement from his family in *Salt in His Shoes: Michael Jordan in Pursuit of a Dream*, by Deloris and Roslyn M. Jordan. Ages 6 to 9.

◆ Using gifts from several of the animals, Desert Woman finds an innovative way to deal with a snake's difficult behavior in *Roadrunner's Dance*, by Rudolfo Anaya, with illustrations by Caldecott Award-winner David Diaz. Ages 6 to 9.

◆ Percival P. Puffinwiff, Titanic Timmy Tinkletunes, and a person who has turned into a carrot are all characters in *It's Raining Pigs and Noodles*, a collection of poetry by Jack Prelutsky, illustrated by James Stevenson. Ages 9 and up.

◆ Two men named Melvin, one a Civil War veteran and the other an orphaned teenager, form a strong friendship in *Stick and Whittle*, by Sid Hite. Ages 10 and up.

Children's Nonfiction

◆ A courageous art teacher and the children she knew in a concentration camp are movingly remembered in *Fireflies in the Dark: The Story of Friedl Dicker-Brandeis and the Children of Terezin*, by Susan Goldman Rubin. Ages 10 and up.

◆ Shelley Tanaka gives a glimpse into 12th-century European life in her biography of William Marshal, *In the Time of Knights: The Real-Life Story of History's Greatest Knight*. Ages 8 to 11.

Annotations by Carol Small
Librarian, Noe Valley Branch

Kathleen George

Taken

Thriller set in Pittsburgh has been receiving rave reviews
Fri. Oct. 5 at 7 pm



Paul Linde

Of Spirits And Madness

Noe Valley author tells the story of his time in Zimbabwe
Sat. Oct. 6 at 6 pm



Peter Lilenthal

Bookmaking Event

bookmaking guru teaches the how-to's of this ancient craft
Sun. Oct. 14 at 1 pm



Wendolin Van Draanen

Flipped

author of the *Sammy Keyes Mysteries* signs her newest
Wed. Oct. 17 at 11 am



Carol Hughes

Toots Underground

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Cycling in Sonoma

A Bike Path to Autumn

By Janis Cooke Newman

Where I grew up on the East Coast, autumn was hard to miss. Like most things in New Jersey, it got right in your face. Sometime during the first week of October, the air started smelling of apples, and the trees exploded into vivid reds and oranges and yellows that made them look like perpetually burning biblical bushes. By the second week, you were walking ankle-deep in gold and scarlet leaves, which stuck to your socks on rainy days and crunched beneath your shoes on dry ones. And by the third week, the nights had become so chilly, you went looking for a Halloween costume big enough to fit over your winter coat.

Here in San Francisco, fall is more discreet. October arrives with a flurry of red construction-paper leaves taped to classroom windows, coppery suede skirts and boots stacked up in storefronts, and orange pumpkins lining the curb outside the natural foods market. And by the third week of October, it's generally so hot that my jack-o'-lantern has grown a green, hair-like mold inside its artistically carved head.

I love these San Francisco autumns that cause sunflowers and butternut squash to suddenly sprout in front of every corner store. But occasionally, I miss the New Jersey autumns I grew up with.

That's when I gather my husband and son, and head up to the town of Sonoma, less than an hour's drive north of the Golden Gate Bridge. In fall, Sonoma has trees that flame yellow and gold and acres of vineyards where the leaves turn the color of pinot noir and chardonnay. Sonoma also has something that appeals to all of us leg-weary San Franciscan cyclists—a flat bike path.

This year, we make the drive on an early fall day. Our first stop is Cucina Viansa on First Street, where we load up on picnic supplies. My husband stuffs his backpack with prosciutto sandwiches, pasta salad, and tiramisu, packed in a little dome-shaped container for traveling.

The atmosphere in Cucina Viansa is self-consciously Tuscan. In addition to the Italian tilework and a chalkboard that lists the day's specials under the headings *Pannini* and *Insalata*, there are several antique suits of armor standing guard over the cappuccino machine.

"That knight looks like he has to pee."



A bike path in Sonoma meanders past the Victorian home built by General Mariano Vallejo, as well as the Depot Park Museum, which has several railroad boxcars parked alongside.

Photo by Ken Newman

says my 6-year-old son, Alex. The knight in question is holding his knees together and does indeed appear anxious to leave his post watching the deli case.

We come out of Cucina Viansa and walk along Sonoma's town square, which at one time was home to a band of rogue chickens that roosted in the tops of trees and terrorized small children. After a bitter (at least, as bitter as things get in this exceedingly pleasant town) dispute that had the pro-chicken contingent sporting T-shirts that read, "Save Our Peckers," the original poultry gang was replaced by more kid-friendly chickens.

Alex would like to tempt the good nature of these mild-tempered chickens by spending some time in the playground, but we're here to ride, so we get back in the car and drive to the start of the bike trail at Junipero Serra Street.

The path meanders through yards where summer's last morning glories climb wooden fences, and persimmon trees display round red fruit shaped like Christmas tree ornaments.

At a small, unmarked cross street lined with a row of trees that always make me think of France, we turn left to visit *Lachryma Montes* (Mountain of Tears), the home General Vallejo built after California became an American state. *Lachryma Montes* is a yellow Gothic Victorian that seems like a touch of Noe Valley transplanted to the wine country. It's flanked by an adobe brick chalet that's as European as the yellow house is San Franciscan.

We consider stopping and taking the tour of these geographically misplaced

houses, but the air has the winy tang of apples, and I don't want to be inside. Instead, we bike back and forth past the yellow Victorian, admiring its garden, which is scattered with colored leaves like the toys in a 2-year-old's bedroom, and then head back to the bike path.

A little farther along, we come to a couple of railroad boxcars and a red caboose sitting beside the path. Alex drops his bike and runs to the boxcars, easy prey to the mysterious attraction that exists between small children and trains.

Behind the caboose is Sonoma's Depot Park Museum, a stop Alex would find it unthinkable not to make. Inside, the museum is filled with artifacts from Sonoma's Miwok days through the 1800s: arrowheads and dolls with china faces, woven baskets and a working stereoscope, even a 100-year-old box of birds' eggs collected for a school project. But Alex is only interested in the bear boots.

"These boots were made from a real bear's feet," explains the docent, an elderly woman with a sweet voice. "Look, you can even see the claws."

"Cool," says Alex.

"Ulysses S. Grant wore these boots to a costume party at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco," the docent tells us. Then she explains how to find the plaque that marks the burial place of Toot-Toot the Railroad Cat.

"Toot-Toot did not die of natural causes," she whispers in my ear.

Alex and I find Toot-Toot's memorial behind the first railroad car, next to the museum building. We do not speculate on precisely how he met his unnatural end.

Back on our bikes, we pedal past little houses with flowers and pumpkins on their porches. In the hills along the path, autumn trees turned the color of saffron resemble Buddhist monks walking through woods. At one corner, someone has raked fallen leaves into a knee-high pile. I drop my bike and crunch through them.

At the next cross street, we come to the Patch, my favorite stop along the Sonoma bike path. The Patch is a tiny self-serve farm produce stand on the edge of a field. In summer, I've found white corn, deep purple plums, and lemon cucumbers. Now, the cardboard boxes are filled with acorn squash, broccoli, and Indian corn with patch-

WHERE TO RIDE IN SONOMA

To find the start of the Sonoma bike path, take Spain Street West from the Sonoma town square to Junipero Serra. Turn right on Junipero Serra. You'll see the bike path on your right. From there to Sebastián, the path is approximately 1 1/2 miles.

Visiting *Lachryma Montes*. General Vallejo's home is open every day from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Kids under 17 are admitted free. Adults are \$1.

Visiting the Depot Park Museum. The museum is open from 1 to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Admission is free.

Other Museums. There are several historical museums, as well as the Sonoma Mission, located around the town square.

work kernels of burgundy, brown, and red. Dropping our money into a small locked box, we buy a big bunch of Indian corn to hang on the front door at home.

About a mile and a half from where we started on Junipero Serra, the bike path ends at East Fourth Street, near Sebastián Winery. We head across the road to a row of picnic tables and climb off our bikes.

The late-afternoon sun slants through trees that have turned the color of ripe lemons, and the wind blows yellow leaves across our table. We eat everything we bought at Cucina Viansa, including the tiramisu, which is only a little squished from the ride. There are red and orange trees blazing on the hillside, and colored leaves stuck to my bicycle shorts. Fall is in my face, and it seems that nothing can disturb my contentment.

"Hey, Mom," Alex says. "You know what I really want for Halloween?"

"What?"

"Some bear boots."

KATHRYN MACDONALD PHOTOGRAPHY

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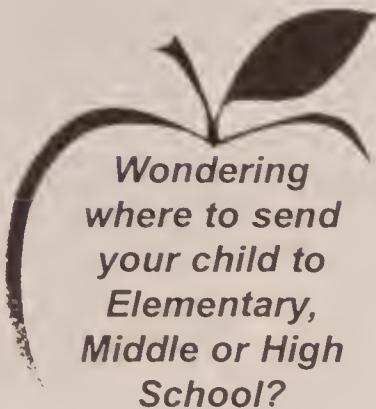
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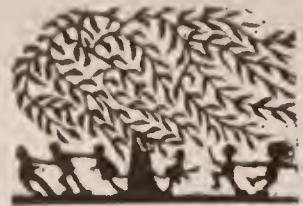
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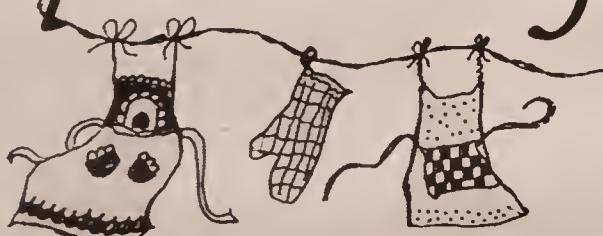
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MORE MOUTHS TO FEED

By Maire Farrington

Colin David Inns

After Colin David Inns missed his Christmas Eve due date, his parents scheduled an induced delivery for Dec. 28, 2000. Lisa and David Inns had an appointment to arrive at California Pacific Medical Center at 6 a.m., but as it turned out, there was no room at the inn.

"We spent the whole day waiting for a bed," says Lisa. To pass the time and "speed things along," Lisa and David walked all over Noe Valley, even venturing up Douglass Street to Kite Hill.

Finally, at 5 p.m., the hospital phoned to say a bed was available, but the couple's physician was going off duty. "They said, 'Do you still want to do it?'" David relates. "And we were like, 'We're getting this done!' So we went in."

Lisa's doctor administered medication to induce labor and then left for the evening, planning to check in on the couple the next morning. "He thought it would take all night," Lisa says.

But things went a little faster than anticipated. Says David, "The nurse who was watching us all of a sudden said, 'Oh my gosh, he's coming out!' She radioed the [on-call] doctor, who came right over. And he came out really fast."

Colin arrived at 10:59 p.m., weighing a healthy 8 pounds, 7 ounces.

At 10 months, Colin has blond hair and bright blue eyes and a grin that reveals a single tooth sprouting up front and center. He's also "pretty mobile," says Mom. "He's starting to move around, and he's actually interested in standing right now."

"He's very physical," Dad agrees. "He's already pulling himself up in his crib." In fact, if you don't keep your eye on him, he's likely to give you the slip. "He's started crawling now, and you'll turn around and you'll look over again and he'll be gone. He'll be over in the other corner of the room."

Big sister Greer, age 2, "has been really sweet to him," says Mom. The two little ones entertain each other with balls and blocks, and splash around at the pool together during swimming lessons.

Greer has taken an interest in teaching baby brother "everything," and has a caretaking side, too. "She likes to do all kinds of things for him," Lisa notes. "They're



The Inns Family: David and Lisa with son Colin, 10 months, and daughter Greer, 2.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

not always the most helpful things, but they're really sweet."

"Like putting him in a WWF [World Wrestling Federation] headlock when she's trying to give him a hug," jokes David.

Colin, naturally upbeat, doesn't seem to mind. When the going gets tough, he likes to suck on his index and middle fingers. "He doesn't need a pacifier, he's got a built-in one," says Dad.

"I think he's so happy and mellow because he knows how to soothe himself," says Mom. "He hardly ever cries." He's even been known to nod off and catch a few z's in the backpack on family hikes in Marin.

But baby does have a curious side, too, and he doesn't like to miss out on the action. "He always does this thing with his head when he hears a noise," says David. "He swivels his head around and does a double take, like something Kramer would do on *Seinfeld*. He's Kramer-esque in a way."

Lisa, 35, and David, 31, met in 1996 while living in Chicago. They were introduced at a party hosted by Lisa's cousin. The two were married the following year, and moved to San Francisco in 1999, where they settled into their home on Jersey Street. David works as a consultant, and Lisa has taken a break from her career as an interior designer and

is enjoying her role as stay-at-home mom.

Raising two little ones has made for a full but manageable schedule, says David. "You can still go with man-on-man coverage," he quips.

Colin helps out by keeping himself busy indulging his passion for all things paper. He finds newspapers and magazines especially fascinating, and he'll attack with relish. "You can't read with him on your lap, because he just reaches over and crunches the paper," says David. Sip a cup of coffee and you may be courting disaster.

Lisa has learned to be wary of long silences. "The other night at bedtime we were tending to Greer, and all of a sudden I thought, Colin is so quiet," she says. "I went in there, and he was eating a Dr. Seuss book. He had the last page gone—all crumpled up and soaking wet!"

Colin likes to spend time with his cousins in Salinas, Calif., and Reno, Nev., and he's made the rounds visiting family members as far away as Ontario, Can., and Cape Cod, Mass., where the beach-bum life suited him quite nicely. He fearlessly splashed in the waves and took his morning naps on the beach, shaded by his own little tent. He even experimented with the local cuisine.

"He'd try to eat the sand every once in

a while," David says. "He'd take a handful of sand, and the next thing you know he'd be going for his mouth. It didn't seem to bother him, though. Maybe it's not as bad when you don't have teeth."

One of Colin's more endearing qualities, says Mom, is that he likes being held and cuddled. "He's a snuggly baby, which is really nice. He likes to snuggle and hold you."

"He's just so sweet and mellow," says Dad. "It's really cool having one of each, too. I think we're really lucky that way. Having a boy after having a girl is really fun."

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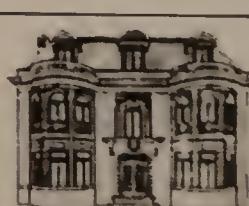
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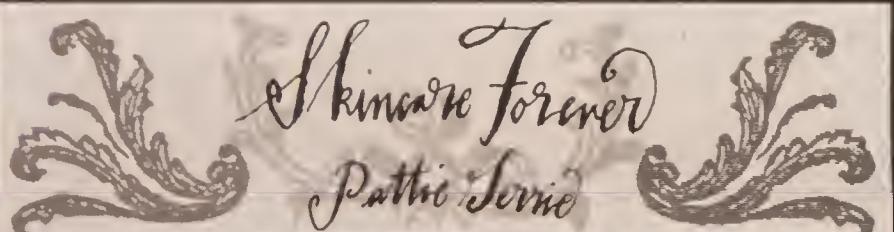


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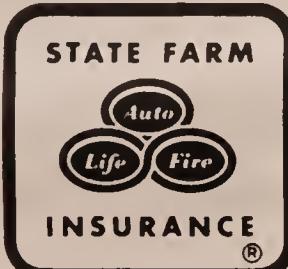
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capa@home4us.org
 Meetings: Second Thursday of month,
 Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100
 Collingwood St., 7:30 p.m.

Cesar Chavez Neighborhood Association
 Contact: Mike Moberg, 647-1330
 Mailing Address: First Church of God, 3728
 Cesar Chavez St., San Francisco, CA 94110
 Meetings: Call for details.

Diamond Heights Community Association
 Contact: Betsy Eddy, 239-5776
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529, San
 Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: First Thursday of month, 7:30
 p.m. Call for location.

Dolores Heights Improvement Club
 Contact: Amy Powell, 647-4228
 Mailing Address: 3732 21st St., San
 Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Bimonthly board meetings;
 membership meetings semi-annually. Call
 for details.

Duncan Newburg Association (DNA)
 Contact: Keith Eickman, 282-8988; Evelyn
 Martin, 826-6734; Deanna Mooney, 821-4045
 Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San
 Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Held periodically. Call for details.

**East & West of Castro Street
 Improvement Club**
 Contact: Paul Kantus, 647-3753
 Mailing Address: 492 Douglass St., San
 Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: First Wednesday of month, Noe
 Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.
 Call for summer holiday schedule.

Eureka Valley Promotion Association
 Contact: Lion Barnett, 255-3624
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 14137, San
 Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Third Thursday of every month
 (except December), Eureka Valley Recre-
 tion Center, 100 Collingwood St., 7:30 p.m.

Fair Oaks Neighbors
 Contact: Pam Coxson, 648-4977
 Mailing Address: 25 Fair Oaks St., San
 Francisco, CA 94110
 Meetings: Call for details. The annual Fair
 Oaks Street Fair is always held the day
 before Mother's Day.

Friends of Glen Canyon Park
 Contact: Richard Craib, 648-0862
 Mailing Address: 140 Turquoise Way, San
 Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Call for details.

Friends of Noe Valley
 Contact: Dave Monks, 821-4087
 Mailing Address: 167 Valley St., San
 Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Second Thursday of month, Noe
 Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

La Leche League of San Francisco
 Contact: Jennifer, 386-7576; Abi, 282-1937
 Meetings: First Tuesday of month, Bernal
 Heights Library (downstairs), Cortland &
 Moultrie, 11 a.m.

Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association
 Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 192114, San
 Francisco, CA 94119
 Meetings: General meetings quarterly. Call
 for details.

Noe Courts Coalition
 Contact: Dr. Tom Mills, secretary.
 Voicemail: 675-0110; nichapin@aol.com
 Mailing Address: Noe Courts Coalition, P.O.
 Box 460520, San Francisco, CA 94146
 Meetings: Irregular. Call for information.

**Noe Strolls (a.k.a. Noe Valley's
 "Playgroup on Wheels")**
 Contact: Martine, noestrolls@yahoo.com.
 Monthly Stroll: First Tuesday of month, 1
 p.m. To receive stroll locations and notices
 of other events, e-mail your first name, and
 your baby's first name and age, to
noestrolls@yahoo.com, or log on to the
 group's web site: www.noestrolls.com.

Noe Valley Democratic Club
 Contact: Ian Selden, 821-4194
 Mailing Address: 821 Diamond St. #3, San
 Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Third Wednesday of month, 7:30
 p.m. Call for location.

**Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals
 Association**
 Contact: Robert Roddick, 641-8692
 Mailing Address: Robert T. Roddick,
 Noe Valley Law Offices, P.O. Box 460574,
 San Francisco, CA 94114-6003
 Meetings: Last Wednesday of month, Bank
 of America, 24th & Castro, 9 a.m.

Outer Noe Valley Merchants
 Contact: Jim Appenrodt, 641-1500
 Mailing Address: 294 29th St., San
 Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Call for details.

Upper Noe Neighbors
 Contact: Vicki Rosen, 285-0473
 Mailing Address: 169 Valley St., San
 Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Last Thursday of month, Upper
 Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez, 7:30 p.m.



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Clown, Cowboy, Magician! Get the Noe Valley entertainer for your next birthday party. Ask for the neighborhood discount. 415-643-8995; www.woodylabounty.com.

Waikiki Oceanfront Condo. Two-bedroom, \$100 low season, \$175 high season. 510-527-7111 or 510-237-6777.

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Women, Like to Sing? Free vocal instruction* sponsored by the San Francisco Sound W.A.V.E. Chorus of Sweet Adelines International. Learn proper breathing techniques, tone production, four-part harmony, and vocal artistry from our award-winning director, Leslie Gracia. The five weekly lessons begin on Oct. 25, 2001, at 6:45 p.m., at St. John's Church, ground level auditorium, 25 Lake St. at Arguello, in San Francisco. The attendees will be invited to participate in our Dec. 8 winter show! *A materials fee of \$15 will be charged. For further information on the classes or chorus membership, call 415-665-7960, e-mail us at sfsoundwave@aol.com, or visit our web site at sfsoundwave.org.

Maui Family Vacation Rental. Two-bedroom, two-bathroom, ocean-view unit in the Kahana Sunset complex, on a beautiful private beach. Great for families—sleeps six. Children's wading pool, full kitchen, two large lanais, barbecue facilities. Close to shops. For more details, see www.kapalua.com; click on vacation rentals and select Kahana Sunset. Call us for "owner-direct" discount at 415-285-6553.

New Noe Valley Lesbians (NNVL), a social club for lesbians living in Noe Valley and beyond, is starting again with a monthly potluck. NNVL is for women who identify as lesbians. For NNVL event information, call 641-0611.

Dog Walking Service of San Francisco: 731-0120. Established 1995. Bonded and insured!

Looking for an Experienced (20 Years), reliable house cleaner? Stop your search! I personally clean your home and have great clients and references. Are you tired of teams of strangers doing low-quality work, if they show up at all? I run a professional, high-quality service. Call Kj at 415-285-3014.

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Workshop: Basic Swedish Massage for beginners. Sundays with Duncan Reid, C.M.T. Nine years experience. \$67. 415-821-3969.

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HIV and Yoga. This drop-in Hatha Yoga class is for those whose lives have been touched with HIV (including family, friends, and caregivers). Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose comfortable clothing, and an empty stomach. Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$9 (\$6 for first class or needing assistance). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Compassionate, Effective, Affordable Therapy. Give up the illusion that fixing yourself or someone else is the answer. Discover the absolute joy in simply being you. Realize that life works you. Sometimes it's hard. That's just the way it is. Call Judy Martin, M.F.T. 29141, at 415-752-4847. Sliding scale: 90-minute sessions. Visit www.judymartintmf.com/appetite

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House Cleaning. Homes, offices, apartments. Honest person, references available. Call to 650-991-4188 or 650-218-1227; Maria and Janice.

Pranayama and Meditation. This six-week class presents the basics of meditation and breathing practices. Discover for yourself how these practices can improve the quality of your life, raise your standard of health, and bring new clarity and dynamism to your mind. Please register five days in advance. Call 415-821-1117. Mondays, beginning Oct. 1, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$54. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

Dog Walkers Wanted! Walk one or two dogs at a time! Car needed. Dog Walking Service of San Francisco, 731-0120.



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Sunday Services. The Integral Yoga Institute has Sunday services each week from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We begin with some chanting, then a brief discussion on the spiritual aspects of yoga, a worship service, and conclude with a short meditation. All are welcome. 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Carpentry. Design bathrooms, decks, kitchens, add-ons, stairs. We're experts with 20 years of experience. Great references. Call Jeffrey, a local resident, at 753-1707.

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Gentle Yoga. Simple stretches, yoga postures, deep relaxation, and breathing techniques to gently stretch and strengthen the body. Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose clothing, and empty stomach. Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6 p.m., and Sundays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. \$9 (\$6 for first class and seniors). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

Health and Fitness Support Group forming. Staying in shape has its rewards: increased energy, sense of well-being, self-confidence, flexibility, longevity, mobility, positive outlook on life, physical strength, improved cardiovascular condition, and heightened mental alertness. Let's work together to enhance the quality of our lives! Several disciplines are used to reach our goals: weight training, stretching, aerobics, and diet. 415-668-8310.

Therapeutic Massage. Pamper yourself! Swedish or Deep Tissue. Non-sexual. First appointment only \$35 (\$45 for outcalls). Gift certificates available. Call Jamine, 415-305-7250.

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House Cleaning. Homes, offices, apartments. Honest person, references available. Call 650-992-6209, or 415-948-9007; Kathia and Tereza.

Bhagavad Gita. This six-week class studies the ancient Indian spiritual classic, Bhagavad Gita (Song of God), with an emphasis on how to apply the spiritual principles into daily life. Required reading: *The Living Gita* (available at the Institute for \$17). Please register in advance. Call 415-821-1117. Tuesdays, beginning Oct. 2, 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$54. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

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Pet Care. Does Rover need a pet sitter? Exercise? A ride to the vet? Positively Pets can help! Expert care for all pets. Ten years experience. Bonded. References. Senior discounts. 647-2463.

Meditation Workshop. This is a practical workshop that will enable you to begin earnest meditation on your own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. Suitable for beginners and experienced meditators who want to be inspired. Tuesday, Oct. 2, 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.



Home and Office Cleaning. Excellent references, professional, reasonable prices. Offering service seven days a week. For more details, call 415-436-9477, Nadya Rocha.

Too Many Papers? Too Little Time? Call Margo Rila, 861-4551. Home and office organizer. Reasonable rates. References. www.margo.bytewright.com.

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Are You Seeking Growth in your relationships? I work with couples and individuals, assisting them in the transformation of what blocks them from achieving more satisfaction and vitality in relationships. In addition, I work with children and adolescents who may be struggling with the challenges of young adulthood. Grounded and compassionate psychotherapy. Chris Kughn, M.F.T. license #MFC 37183. Noe Valley office. Call 415-257-0995.

Are You Looking for a Housecleaner? Stop your search! I am responsible, honest, experienced, and with great references. For more details, call Maria at 415-587-7313.

Yogic Diet Workshop. The principles and benefits of a yoga diet will be presented in this workshop. Some of our favorite recipes from the IYI kitchen will be given. Wednesday, Oct. 3, 6 to 8 p.m. \$18. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 415-821-1117.

Bed and Breakfast "Cottage Gate." Charming studio apartment; queen bed, kitchenette, breakfast choices provided, phone, cable, private bath, security gate, level private entrance. 20th and Douglass. 415-626-6497.

House Cleaning Specialist Available seven days a week. Experienced, reliable, dependable, flexible schedule. Do laundry and ironing. Live out. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or daily. Also, good home cook. Excellent references. Denize, degusmao@hotmail.com or 415-452-8939.



Stress Management Through Yoga Workshop. Stress is the result of our reaction to both good and bad experiences. This workshop will offer a blueprint for reducing stress through Hatha Yoga, relaxation, meditation, and development of yogic perspective on change and self-empowerment. Tuesday, Oct. 2, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$9. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

Weight Management Coaching. Can't lose weight? Lose, only to re-gain? Why not try something different. Let's talk. Diana Murphy, M.F.T. (M.F.C. 32704) 415-681-1767.

Stressless Housecleaning...because life's hectic enough. Superior quality. Customized cleaning. Free estimates. Call Jeanine, 564-2877.

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Piano Lessons. Kids are my specialty, but adults welcome! Noe Valley-based musician, with B.A. and M.M. in music and pedagogy, accepting students. 15 years experience. Carla, 415-648-3651.

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Upholstery in Noe Valley! Free estimates, pickup, and delivery. Quality recovering of sofas, stuffed chairs, and dining chairs, at reasonable rates. Call Jorge Meraz-Baca, 282-2256.

All Things Macintosh: Internet making you crazy? Troubleshooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Software support, tutoring. References. Roslyn, 510-526-1209.

Drop-In Hatha Yoga. Learn yoga postures, deep relaxation, and breathing techniques. Prenatal, Baby, Gentle, Advanced classes, too. Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose clothing, and empty stomach. Classes daily. Phone 415-821-1117 for the class schedule \$9 (\$6 for first class and seniors). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

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Then mail your ad copy and check, made out to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by the **15TH OF THE MONTH** before the month you'd like to advertise in. The address is *Noe Valley Voice Class Ads*, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. (Sorry, the *Voice* is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or e-mail at this time.)

10 FOR 10 DISCOUNT: The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes a news edition 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the *same* class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the November 2001 issue, distributed in Noe Valley on or before Nov. 1. **THE DEADLINE FOR CLASS ADS IS OCT. 15, 2001.**

Note: Class Ads are printed in the newspaper and then displayed on our web site (www.noevalleyvoice.com) for one month.

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by an SASE. Thank you.

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and now for the
RUMORS
behind the news

Is Everybody Okay?

By Mazook

BEFORE WE START, please observe a stanza of silence for all those who perished in the inferno of Sept. 11, 2001....

...Thank you.

•••

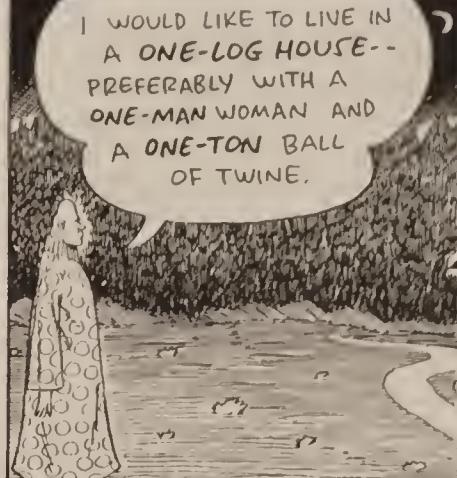
THE NVBI (Noe Valley Bureau of Investigation) reports that our neighborhood mood is uncharacteristically subdued and curiously patriotic. The shock of Sept. 11 has touched us all.

American flag displays in the neighborhood are up 10,000 percent. In the days of yore, I mean three weeks ago, the only place on 24th Street you would see Old Glory was in Harry Aleo's window (Twin Peaks Properties, the closest thing we have to a Republican shrine). Now, about half the businesses in Downtown Noe Valley sport some sort of flag.

Still, Harry is urging *all* Noe Valley merchants to show their colors. "Urge" is putting it mildly. A few days after the tragedy, Aleo posted this notice in his window: "Many merchants refuse to put a flag in their window. If they refuse to support our country at this time, why would you support them?"

NVBI agents also report that although there has been a sharp increase in random acts of kindness in the streets of Noe Valley, once we get in our cars, all bets are

ZIPPY



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off. Drivers seem even more arrogant than ever about who has the right of way at four-way stops and who gets the parking spot. Shame, shame.

•••

THE NVBI SENT AGENTS to Downtown Noe Valley on the afternoon of Saturday, Sept. 22, to poll passersby on three questions:

1. Do you live in Noe Valley? If yes, then go on to questions 2 and 3:
2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate President George W. Bush's job performance?
3. Do you support military retaliation for the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?

Firstly, only 25 percent of the people said they lived in Noe Valley. The NVBI notes this poll was conducted in front of Noe Bagel/Real Food Company, where clipboarders often set up, so some pedestrians may have thought we wanted their signature on a petition.

Among that 25 percent, President Bush's approval rating averaged a 4.7 rating on the 1 to 10 scale. The NVBI must point out that this is a substantial gain for

Bush. In last November's general election, he was only able to pull down 9.2 percent of the Noe Valley vote.

Lastly, on the retaliation question, 60 percent said "no," 30 percent said "yes," or qualified the "yes" by emphasizing that we should only bomb terrorist camps. Ten percent stood undecided.

As for yours truly, I agree with Rep. Barbara Lee, who cast the lone dissenting vote in Congress over the war spending bill. Instead, she said, we should capture and try those who conspired in the attacks, step up security across the country, and improve intelligence operations.

As for my own answers to the NVBI questions: 1. Yes, I live here. 2. I rate Bush a 10 so far, and for only one reason: he has adopted Barbara Lee's approach, at least for now.

As for question 3, I shout NO. I hope our government understands that killing civilians will only nurture bigger and worse retaliation. The Mahatma Gandhi quote being circulated in the Valley these days says it all: "Eye for an eye, and the whole world is blind."

•••

LES AMIS DE NOE: Friends of Noe Valley President Dave Monks is the one who passed the Gandhi quote on to me. Dave, who works at SFO, was upset by recent events. However, he was happy that his group did not cancel its Sept. 13 forum and slide show, "Paris 1871/San Francisco 2001," at Cover to Cover Books. Part of it was a lecture by architectural historian Jeannene Przyblyski, who compared San Francisco to Paris in the 19th century, when demolition and modernization threatened to engulf the city.

Says Dave, "After the events of Tuesday, Sept. 11, we seriously considered calling the event off, but decided that people might want to get away from the images on the TV screen, so we gave it a go, and it was standing-room only."

Now Dave is hoping those same people will turn out for the Friends' picnic and board election, to be held the last day of September (after press time). "This year, we will boost our directors from 10 to 12 or 14, although our bylaws permit us to go up to 20," says Dave, "especially because our membership has shown a

Continued on Next Page

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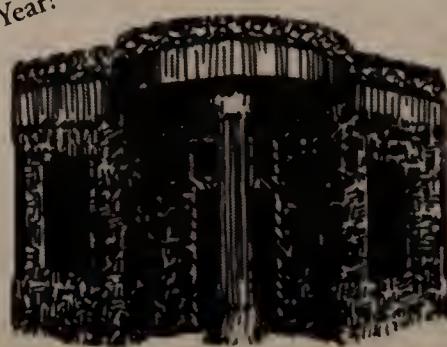
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RUMORS

Continued from Previous Page

nice increase this year, putting us over 250."

The FNV is still looking for people willing to serve on one of its six committees: Parking, Traffic and Transit, Planning, Parks, Trees and Open Space, Kids and Schools, Library, and last but not least, the Social Committee.

If you want to sign up, go to the next Friends meeting on Thursday, Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m., at the Noe Valley Library.

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PARK 'N' BEANS: Meanwhile, the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association is moving forward with plans to get some metered parking on 24th Street above Castro.

According to Merchants President Bob Roddick, it looks like a compromise has been reached between merchants and residents to meter 14 of the 41 available spots, up to Diamond Street.

There was going to be a public hearing before the Department of Parking and Traffic on Sept. 28, but that has been continued to Oct. 14, according to DPT spokesperson Diana Hammons. "There have to be public notices at least 14 days before the hearing," explained Diana, "and because of recent events, we have not been able to give proper notice."

Diana warns that Oct. 14 is a tentative date, so keep your eyes open for any notices that might be posted by DPW on 24th Street.

•••

THE TWISTED SCOOP of the month is that it looks like there will be no changes in the immediate future at Rory's Twist-

ed Scoop at 24th and Castro. We can all continue to scream for ice cream.

The *Chronicle* started this rumor, with a report that the people from Luna Park restaurant, at 18th and Valencia, were planning to open a cafe/wine bar (with a limited charcuterie menu) in the storefront where Rory's is now.

In last month's column, I reported that Rory's confirmed that their 24th Street location was for sale (they have another Rory's on Fillmore Street), but would not confirm whether it had been sold. Well, Luna Park spokesman A. J. Gilbert now states that he is "95 percent sure we will not [be completing the deal]."

Gilbert had gone to the Merchants Association and the East & West of Castro Club with his plans, but didn't leave either with a sense of optimism, although according to him, neither group said it would protest his application for a beer and wine license.

Gilbert was going to contact Friends of Noe Valley, but decided to ditch the idea. "We have concluded that the space is too small [1,100 square feet], and it is not worth it to go through the process with all the restrictions in the district," he said.

•••

IN THE MARKET FOR A MARKET? Word is out that the owners of Shufat Market, on 24th near the corner of Church, have put up half of their place (the west side) for rent. Brothers Mike Khalil, James Abunie, and Omar Kamal have operated this grocery store and deli since June 1972, and it is named after their hometown in East Jerusalem.

"Our rent is now \$4,200 a month, and our PG&E bill has jumped to \$1,600 dollars a month," says Mike. James adds: "We have to try to downsize our space and overhead."

The brothers are offering the 900-

square-foot location for \$2,100 a month, and so far they've had inquiries from a rug store, a furniture store, and a deli.

How about a butcher shop, with meat and fish trimmed to order? Then the corner — which now has Shufat's grocery, Happy Donuts, and Jim and Sons Produce (with some of the best produce prices in town) — might rival Bell Market.

•••

SPARE CHANGES: Don't blink or you'll miss even more openings and closings in the 'hood. Echo Home and Garden, the nifty design store on the east side of Church Street, is no more. The furniture store is still there, though.

The spot on 24th Street next to Rite Aid, last occupied by Terra Mia, not to mention the old Cork 'n' Bottle, has just opened as Riki, a women's designer boutique. This is a branch of the original store, which is downtown on Grant Street.

Isa has moved his Isa's Hair Salon to the old Horner's Corners building on the corner of Castro and Jersey, which had been occupied by Mylene's Hair Salon for 20 years. But Isa will continue to use his 24th Street store, between Church and Vicksburg, as a retail outlet for beauty supplies. Mylene's is up on 24th Street, in the (former) Doll House.

Probably the quickest opening and closing of any Noe store in modern history would be the three-month run of the Flower Station on the corner of Castro and Clipper. Why? I wish I could tell you.

Castro Computer has moved from its tiny closet on Castro next to RPM property management, to the more expansive space south of 24th that was recently a DVD store (Laser Video). It's next to the Peaks bar...but don't drink and digitize.

And hold your chihuahuas! There are rumors that Taco Bell-KFC has been checking out the old Star Bakery site on Church at 29th.

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TOP OF THE POPS this month at Streetlight Records is the new Bob Dylan CD *Love and Theft*. It was officially released on Tuesday, Sept. 18, and "flew out the door." I wouldn't be surprised if Dylan's *Highway 61 Revisited* got revisited, too.

Down at Aquarius Records, the word is that *Uneasy Listening*, the new album by deejays Z-Trip & P, has sold out. "It's basically turntable music," says Elisabeth

O'Connell, "where the disc jockeys are spinning records to make complimentary rhythms and clever narratives."

The other record of the moment is the first release in 10 years from Jon Wayne ("the band, not the dead actor"), *Two Graduated Jiggers*, which includes hillbilly cow-punk tunes like "Death and Texas" and "Time to Drink Whiskey." It's redneck music, but these here's redneck times.

As far as page-turners go, in the non-fiction departments at Cover to Cover and Phoenix Books, everybody is reading *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*, by Barbara Ehrenreich. But post-Sept. 11, people started grabbing *Islam: A Short History*, by Karen Armstrong (2000), and Thomas Friedman's 1990 bestseller, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*.

Fictionally speaking, over at Cover to Cover, the big hit is Garth Nix's young adult fantasy/sci-fi book *Lirael*, the second in the Abhorsen trilogy (his first novel was *Sabriel*). At Phoenix, the hot pick is *Red Tent*, Anita Diamant's retelling of the Old Testament story of Dinah, daughter of Leah and the patriarch Jacob.

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IN THE VIDEO REALM: Over at Noe Valley Video on 24th Street, *Blow*, Johnny Depp's portrayal of a drug dealer (cocaine smuggler), is tied for No. 1 with, curiously, *The Tailor of Panama*, starring Pierce Brosnan and Geoffrey Rush, a spy movie that takes place after Manuel Noriega's downfall.

At First Choice Video, Church and 24th, *Memento*, an artsy independent film about a man with severe memory loss tracking down his wife's murderer, is the first choice.

A sampling over at Video Wave on Castro reveals that most requests these days are for comedy, especially the Marx Brothers. That makes sense. Also heavily requested is *The Man Who Saw Tomorrow*, a 1981 documentary about Nostradamus, narrated by Orson Welles. Whatever you do, don't watch it just before bedtime. It's scary.

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THAT'S THIRTY for this month. Sleep tight, get up bright, and don't let the bed bugs bite. Everything will be all right tomorrow. Maybe. I hope. □

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Reunion with Madame Berger

♦ BY ZACK ROGOW ♦

I WAS SHUFFLING through the mail on my way in the door of my apartment on Hill Street when I spotted an unfamiliar return address. The stationery was from a Leonard Berger, Esq., on West 92nd Street in Manhattan. His name, in black letters, had been crossed out with a blue ballpoint pen. The envelope was so old that it read New York, 25, N.Y.—a postal code that hadn't been used for decades. My name and address were traced in a hand as fine as cake decoration, a hand that must have mastered penmanship in the days when that was still a subject students were graded on in school.

The letter inside was signed by Madame Berger, my high school French teacher from New York City. I hadn't heard from her in nearly thirty years. In her letter she wrote that she'd gotten my address from a former classmate of mine who'd recently gone to a reunion. Madame Berger was writing to let me know that she'd be visiting San Francisco in a couple of weeks. She wondered if we could have lunch while she was in town.

I recognized her immediately, even though her crown of hair had turned from brown to the silver of a Monet cloud.

I was delighted to hear from her. Madame Berger had been one of my favorite teachers in high school—she'd even redirected my life. Her class had inspired me to love the sounds and stresses of poetry, and to go on and write and translate verse.

Immediately I dialed the number in the letter and was surprised by the hesitant voice at the other end. Madame Berger (we pronounced her name Bear-ZHAY, like the French word for shepherd, rather than its real, New York sound that suggested a quarter-pounder with an order of fries) had always been confident in class, even intimidating.

"Is this Flor...Florence Berger?" I stumbled over her formerly taboo first name.

"Yes?"

"This is Zack. I got your letter."

"Who?"

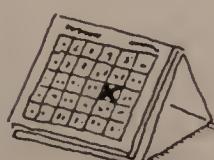
"Zack Rogow, your former student from French 3. You wrote me saying you'd be in San Francisco."

"Yes," she answered, getting it now. She used to be so quick. "Let me see, when will I be out there again?"

"You wrote in your letter you're arriving on the 17th."

"I'll just check my calendar." She stirred the papers on what I could only picture as an old desk with a green blotter and paper clips in a leather dispenser. "Right. The 17th. Could we have lunch that week?"

"Sure. Sounds great." We agreed on a date, and I started planning the afternoon. I'd show her the U.C.



Berkeley campus where I worked, the library where I had researched my translations of poetry and novels. I must be one of the few, I thought to myself, who actually made use of what I had learned in Madame Berger's class. Not like that David Rosen, who used to sit in the back row with Christine and distract her with notes and rude remarks. What did Christine ever see in him she didn't see in me? He was smart, but he never did his homework unless he copied it from her.

David Rosen had actually stuffed a snowball down my throat during what was supposed to have been a playful fight on Kingsbridge Road in the Bronx.

When the day arrived in August for Madame Berger's visit, I met her at the BART train station in downtown Berkeley. I recognized her immediately, even though her crown of hair had turned from brown to the silver of a Monet cloud. The change in color only highlighted her eyes, waterlily blue. She was wearing thick bifocals now, though she'd only been nearsighted when I'd been her student.

I didn't know whether or not to hug her, but she leaned into me and gave me a little squeeze.

"I don't know if I would've recognized you," she confessed.

Her face looked drier but the same, except that her tall spine was now slightly arched. Trails of sweat ran down her forehead.

"Could we go somewhere and eat?" she suggested.

"Oh, it's early." I had a whole itinerary planned for her. "I'm going to take you to the French Department Library, and to the top of the Campanile. That's the bell tower modeled on the one in Venice—the view'll be terrific today."

"I hope we don't have to walk up."

I MARCHED HER to the French Library, suddenly aware that she was actually panting, and that it was more of an uphill hike than I'd ever noticed. Next stop was the Campanile. The view was wonderful that day, but the entrance was even farther up the hill. Madame Berger was breathing so hard when we got up the flight of stairs after the elevator that I wondered if she was going to have a stroke right at the top of the tower.

"That's the rare book library down there." I pointed at a rectangular structure directly below us at the foot of the Campanile. "They've even got the copy of *Madame Bovary* that Flaubert inscribed to the man he dedicated the book to: *À Louis Bouilhet. Son vieux, Gustave Flaubert.* Isn't that a kick, 'Son vieux'—From his old buddy, Gustave.' And that's where I work." I gestured toward the rooftop of the building where I edit and teach.

Madame Berger took a pocket camera out of her purse and clicked a picture of the Bay.

"I teach French in the summers," I went on, "to



gifted high school kids. I always read them that Rimbaud poem you recited to us," I rattled on.

She looked distracted, smiling with closed lips. "My husband would've loved this view," she said. I remembered the crossed-out name on the stationery. "He passed away from a stroke three years ago."

"I'm sorry," I said, my words suddenly wafting away.

After the Campanile, I paraded her a little farther in the heat, finally turning in for lunch to a French-style cafe just across the street from campus.

After we sat down, I decided finally to tell her what her teaching had meant to me. "Do you realize that your class changed my life?" I said. "When you recited that Verlaine poem that starts, 'Il pleure dans mon cœur,' it completely opened up the music of poetry for me. You know I translated three books from French."

YES, SHE HAD HEARD. She stirred her salade niçoise with her fork, not finishing it, not saying anything about whether she knew my work, or even liked the authors I'd translated.



After lunch I walked her back to the train station. "You'll make it back okay on your own?" I asked nervously.

"Just tell me again what stop I get off?"

"Powell. Your hotel is just three blocks from there. I'd go back with you but I still have to work a few hours."

"I'll manage," she said, suddenly the authoritative teacher again.

"It was great seeing you." I pecked her on both cheeks, the way the French do. I turned to go.

"By the way," she asked, calling me back, her blue eyes finally zoning in on mine, "did you ever hear what became of David?"

"David? David who?"

"David Rosen. The boy in your class." I was amazed she'd even remember such a no-account student.

"No," I said. "I mean, after Christine's accident—you knew about the accident she got into in college—David couldn't bring himself to come to the funeral. I guess it just hurt him too much. Anyway, I don't think I saw him after high school."

"He came into my class, it must've been a year after Christine died." She was looking past my shoulder now. "He was troubled. I could see it in his eyes. And he was wearing a rope instead of a belt. His clothes were dirty. I wondered if he was homeless."

"God, I'm sorry to hear that."

"I liked him."

"You liked him? You liked David?" I couldn't understand. I was her best student, the one who'd aced all the tests for her. I was the one who had published books of translations.

"Oh yes, I liked David," she said. "I always liked the bad boys." ■

Zack Rogow is a Noe Valley resident who writes poetry and translates French literature. He works in the Graduate School of Education at U.C. Berkeley.